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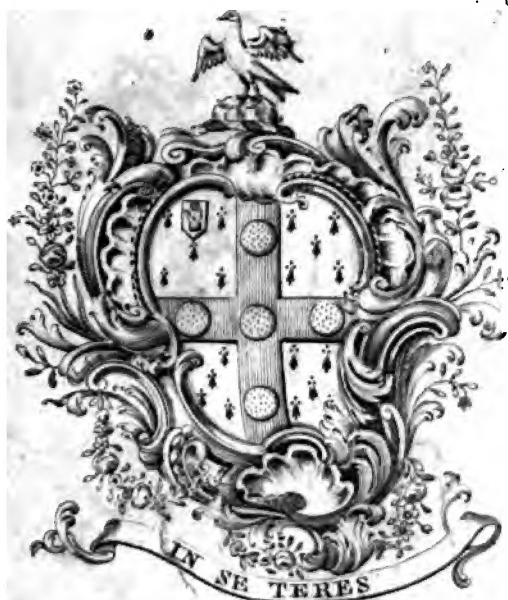
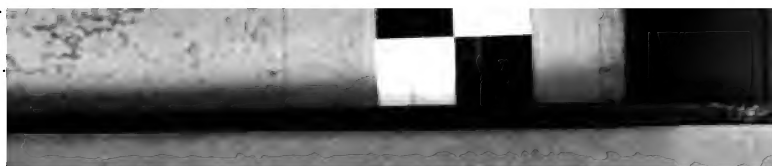
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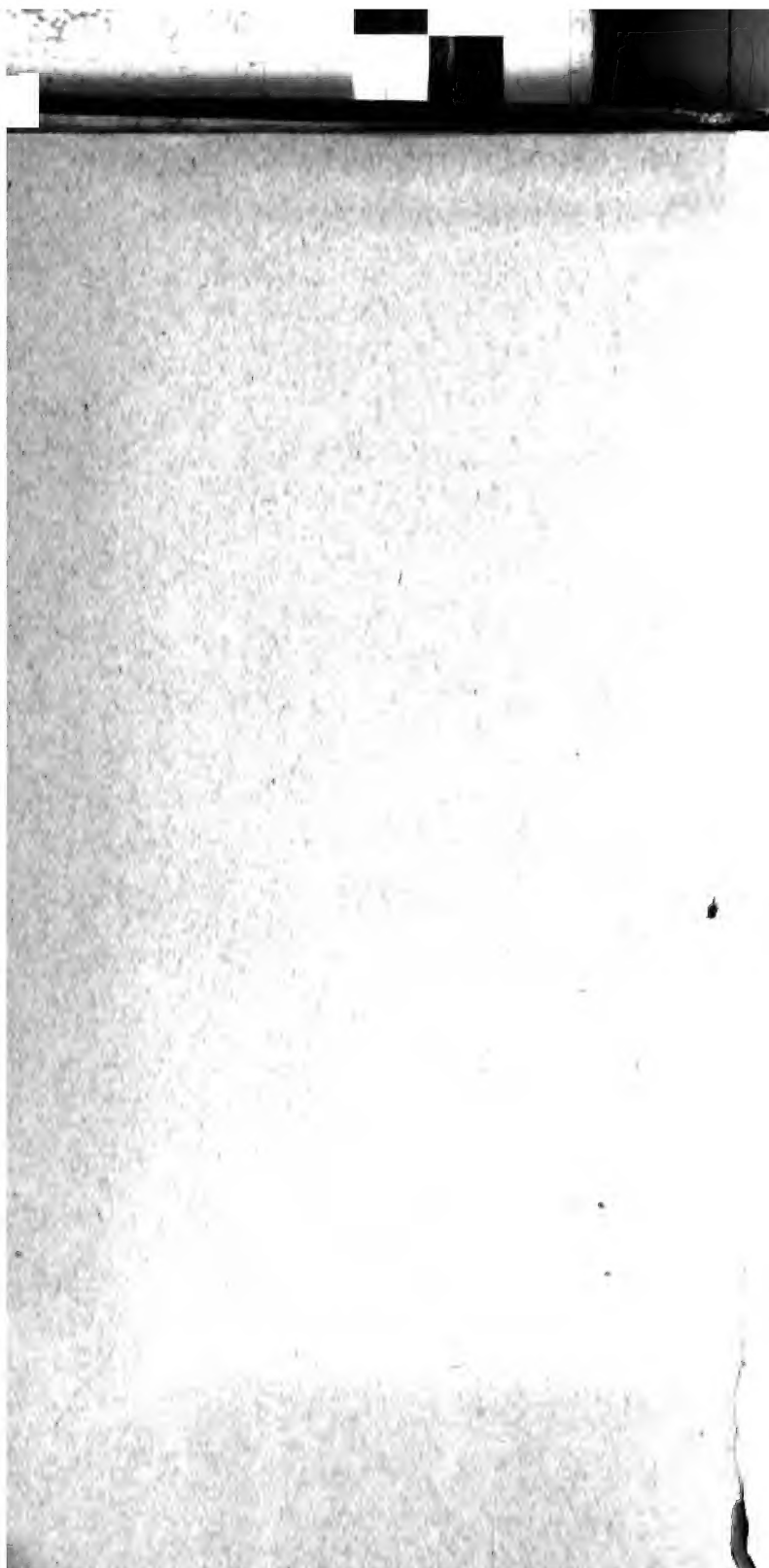
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J. John. L. Aubyn, Ber.









T H E

P L A Y S

O F

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.

Vol. V.

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T H E
P L A Y S
O F
WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE.
VOLUME the FIFTH,

CONTAINING,

The SECOND PART of KING HENRY the SIXTH.
The THIRD PART of KING HENRY the SIXTH.
The LIFE and DEATH of RICHARD the THIRD.
The LIFE of KING HENRY the EIGHTH.

L O N D O N :

**Printed for J. and R. TONSON, C. CORBET, H. WOODFALL,
J. RIVINGTON, R. BALDWIN, L. HAWES, CLARK and
COLLINS, W. JOHNSTON, T. CASLON, T. LOWNDS,
and the Executors of B. DODD,
M,DCC,LXV.**



THE
SECOND PART
OF
HENRY VI.

VOL. V.

B

Dramatis Personæ.

K I N G Henry the Sixth.

Humphry Duke of Gloucester, *Uncle to the King.*

Cardinal Beauford, *Bishop of Winchester, great Uncle to the King.*

Duke of York *pretending to the Crown.*

Duke of Buckingham,

Duke of Somerset,

Duke of Suffolk,

Earl of Salisbury,

Earl of Warwick,

Lord Clifford, *of the King's Party.*

Lord Say.

Lord Scales, *Governor of the Tower.*

Sir Humphry Stafford.

Young Stafford, *his Brother.*

Alexander Iden, *a Kentish Gentleman.*

Young Clifford, *Son to the Lord Clifford.*

Edward Plantagenet,

Richard Plantagenet,

Vaux, *a Sea Captain, and Walter Whitmore, Pirates.*

A Herald. Hume and Southwel, *two Priests.*

Bolingbrook, *an Astrologer.*

A Spirit, attending on Jordan the Witch.

Thomas Horner, *an Armourer.* Peter, *his Man.*

Clerk of Chatham. *Mayor of St. Albans.*

Simpcox, *an Impostor.*

Jack Cade, Bevis, Michael, John Holland, Dick the Butcher, Smith the Weaver, and several others, *Rebels.*

Margaret, *Queen to King Henry VI. secretly in Love with the Duke of Suffolk.*

Dame Eleanor, *Wife to the Duke of Gloucester.*

Mother Jordan, *a Witch employed by the Dutcheſs of Gloucester.*

Wife to Simpcox.

Petitioners, Aldermen, a Beadle, Sheriff and Officers, Citizens, with Faulconers, Guards, Messengers, and other Attendants.

The S C E N E is laid very diſperſedly in ſeveral Parts of England.

* The SECOND PART of
King H E N R Y VI.

A C T I. S C E N E I.

The PALACE.

Flourish of Trumpets: then, Hautboys. Enter King Henry, Duke Humphry, Salisbury, Warwick, and Beauford on the one side: The Queen, Suffolk, York, Somerset, and Buckingham on the other.

SUFFOLK.

AS by your high imperial Majesty *
I had in charge at my depart for *France*,
As procurator for your Excellence,

¹ *The second part, &c.] This and the third part were first written under the title of the Contention of York and Lancaster, printed in 1600, but since vastly improved by the author. POPE.*

The second Part of K. Henry VI.] This and the Third part of King Henry VI. contain that troublesome Period of this Prince's Reign, which took in the whole Contention betwixt the two Houses of York and Lancaster: And under that title were these two Plays first acted and published. The present Scene opens with K. Henry's Marriage, which was in the 23d Year of his Reign; and closes with the first Battle fought

at St. Albans, and won by the York Faction, in the 33d Year of his Reign. So that it comprizes the History and Transactions of 10 Years. THEOBALD.

² *As by your high, &c.] Vide Hall's Chronicle, Fol. 66. Year 23. Init. POPE.*

It is apparent that this play begins where the former ends, and continues the series of transactions, of which it presupposes the first part already known. This is a sufficient proof that the second and third parts were not written without dependance on the first, tho' they were printed as containing a complete period of history.

4 THE SECOND PART OF

To marry Princess *Marg'et* for your Grace ;
 So in the famous ancient city, *Tours*,
 In presence of the kings of *France* and *Sicil*,
 The dukes of *Orleans*, *Calaber*, *Bretaigne*, *Alans*,
 Seven Earls, twelve Barons, twenty reverend Bisho
 I have perform'd my task, and was espous'd :
 And humbly now upon my bended knee,
 In sight of *England* and her lordly peers
 Deliver up my title in the Queen

[*Presenting the Queen to the K*

To your most gracious hand ; that are the substan
 Of that great shadow I did represent ;
 The happiest gift that ever Marquess gave,
 The fairest Queen that ever King receiv'd.

K. Henry. Suffolk, arise. Welcome, Queen *M*
garet ;

I can express no kinder sign of love,
 Than this kind kiss. O Lord, that lend'st me life
 Lend me a heart replete with thankfulness !
 For thou hast giv'n me, in this beauteous face,
 A world of earthly blessings to my soul ;
 If sympathy of love unite our thoughts.

Q. Mar. Great King of *England*, and my gracious
 Lord,

The mutual conference that my mind hath had,³
 By day, by night, waking and in my dreams,
 In courtly company, or at my beads,
 With you, mine alder-lievest Sovereign,⁴
 Makes me the bolder to salute my King
 With ruder terms, such as my wit affords,

³ *The mutual conference*——] I am the bolder to address you, having already familiarised you to my imagination.

⁴ —— *mine alder-lievest Sovereign* ;] *Alder lievest* is an old *English* word given to him to whom the speaker is supreme.

ly attached : *Lievest* being superlative of the comparative *levar*, rather, from *liefs*. So *l* in his *Chronicle*, *Henry VI.* lio 12. *Ryght hyghe and myghty Prince, and my ryght noble, after one, leveest Lord.*

KING HENRY VI.

5

And over-joy of heart doth minister.

K. Henry. Her sight did ravish, but her grace in speech,

Her words y-clad with wisdom's majesty,
Make me from wondring fall to weeping joys,
Such is the fulness of my heart's content.

Lords, with one cheerful voice welcome my Love.

All kneel. Long live Queen Marg'ret, England's happiness!

Q. Mar. We thank you all. [Flourish.

Suf. My Lord protector, so it please your grace,
Here are the articles of contracted Peace,
Between our Sovereign and the French King, Charles,
For eighteen months concluded by consent.

Glo. reads.] *Imprimis, It is agreed between the French King, Charles, and William de la Pole Marquess of Suffolk, Ambassador for Henry King of England, that the said Henry shall espouse the Lady Margaret, daughter unto Reignier King of Naples, Sicilia, and Jerulatem, and crown her Queen of England, ere the thirtieth of May next ensuing.*

Item, *That the Dutchy of Anjou, and the County of Maine, shall be released and delivered to the King her father.* [Lets fall the Paper.

K. Henry. Uncle, how now?

Glo. Pardon me, gracious Lord;
Some sudden qualm hath struck me to the heart,
And dimm'd mine eyes, that I can read no further.

K. Henry. Uncle of Winchester, I pray, read on.

Win. Item, *That the Dutchies of Anjou and Maine shall be released and delivered to the King her father, and she sent over of the King of England's own proper cost and charges, without having any dowry.*

K. Henry. They please us well. Lord Marquess, kneel you down;

We here create thee the first duke of Suffolk,
And gird thee with the sword. Cousin of York,
We here discharge your Grace from being Regent

6 THE SECOND PART OF

I'th' parts of *France*, till term of eighteen months
Be full expir'd. Thanks, uncle *Winchester*,
Glo'ster, *York*, *Buckingham*, and *Somerſet*,
Salisbury and *Warwick*;

We thank you for all this great favour done,
In entertainment to my princely Queen.

Come, let us in, and with all ſpeed provide
To ſee her coronation be perform'd.

[*Exeunt King, Queen, and Suff*

S C E N E II.

Manent the reſt.

Glo. Brave peers of *England*, pillars of the ſtate
To you Duke *Humphry* muſt unload his grief,
Your grief, the common grief of all the land.
What! did my brother *Henry* ſpend his youth,
His valour, coin, and people in the wars?
Did he ſo often lodge in open field,
In winter's cold, and ſummer's parching heat,
To conquer *France*, his true inheritance?
And did my brother *Bedford* toil his wits
To keep by policy what *Henry* got?
Have you yourſelves, *Somerſet*, *Buckingham*,
Brave *York*, and *Salisbury*, victorious *Warwick*,
Receiv'd deep ſcars in *France* and *Normandy*?
Or hath mine uncle *Beauford*, and myſelf,
With all the learned council of the realm,
Studied ſo long, ſat in the council houſe,
Early and late, debating to and fro,
How *France* and *Frenchmen* might be kept in awe
And was his Highneſs in his infancy
Crowned in *Paris*, in deſpight of foes?
And ſhall theſe labours and theſe honours die!
Shall *Henry's* Conqueſt, *Bedford's* vigilance,
Your deeds of war, and all our counſel die?
O peers of *England*, ſhameful is this league,
Fatal this marriage; cancelling your fame,
Blotting your names from books of memory;

Ra

KING HENRY VI.

7

Razing the characters of your renown,
Defacing monuments of conquer'd *France*,
Undoing all, as all had never been.

Car. Nephew, what means this passionate discourse?
This peroration with such circumstances? *

For *France*, 'tis ours; and we will keep it still.

Glo. Ay, uncle, we will keep it if we can;
But now it is impossible we should.

Suffolk, the new-made Duke that rules the roast,
Hath giv'n the dutchy of *Anjou* and *Maine*
Unto the poor King *Reignier*, whose large stile
Agrees not with the leanness of his purse.

Sal. Now, by the death of him who dy'd for all,
These counties were the keys of *Normandy*.

—But wherefore weeps *Warwick* my valiant son?

War. For grief that they are past recovery.
For were there hope to conquer them again,
My sword should shed hot blood, mine eyes no tears.
Anjou and *Maine*! myself did win them both,
Those provinces these arms of mine did conquer.
And are the cities, that I got with wounds,
Deliver'd up again with peaceful words? *

York. For *Suffolk's* Duke, may he be suffocate,
That dims the honour of this warlike isle!
France should have torn and rent my very heart,
Before I would have yielded to this league.
I never read, but *England's* Kings have had
Large sums of gold, and dowries with their wives:
And our King *Henry* gives away his own,
To match with her that brings no vantages.

Glo. A proper jest, and never heard before,
That *Suffolk* should demand a whole fifteenth,
For cost and charges in transporting her.

* *This peroration with such circumstances?*] This speech crowded with so many instances of aggravation.

* The indignation of *War-*

wick is natural, and I wish it had been better expressed; there is a kind of jingle intended in *wounds* and *words*.

THE SECOND PART OF

She should have staid in *France*, and starv'd in *France*,
Before ———

Car. My Lord of *Glo'ster*, now ye grow too hot.
It was the pleasure of my Lord the King.

Glo. My Lord of *Winchester*, I know your mind.
'Tis not my speeches that you do mislike,
But 'tis my presence that doth trouble you.
Rancour will out. Proud prelate, in thy face
I see thy fury; if I longer stay,
We shall begin our ancient bickerings.
Lordings, farewell; and say, when I am gone,
I prophesy'd, *France* will be lost ere long. [*Exit*—

Car. So, there goes our protector in a rage,
'Tis known to you, he is mine enemy,
Nay more, an enemy unto you all,
And no great friend, I fear me, to the King.
Consider, Lords, he is the next of blood,
And heir apparent to the *English* crown.
Had *Henry* got an empire by his marriage,
And all the wealthy kingdoms of the west,^a
There's reason he should be displeas'd at it.
Look to it, Lords, let not his smoothing words
Bewitch your hearts; be wise and circumspect.
What though the common people favour him,
Calling him *Humphry*, the good Duke of *Glo'ster*,
Clapping their hands and crying with loud voice,
Jesu maintain your royal excellence!
With, *God preserve the good Duke Humphry!*
I fear me, Lords, for all this flattering gloss,
He will be found a dangerous protector.

Buck. Why should he then protect our sovereign,
He being of age to govern of himself?
Cousin of *Somerset*, join you with me,

^a *And all the wealthy kingdoms of the west,*] Certainly *Shakespeare* wrote *EAST*.
WARBURTON. in the *West* as well as in the *East*, and the Western kingdoms were more likely to be in the thought of the speaker.

There are wealthy kingdoms

And all together with the Duke of *Suffolk*,
We'll quickly hoist Duke *Humbry* from his seat.

Car. This weighty business will not brook delay.
I'll to the Duke of *Suffolk* presently. [Exit.

Sau. Cousin of *Buckingham*, though *Humbry*'s pride
And greatness of his place be grieve to us,
Yet let us watch the haughty Cardinal :
His insolence is more intolerable
Than all the princes in the land beside.
If *Glo'ster* be displac'd, he'll be protector,
Buck. Or *Somerſet*, or I, will be protector.
Despight Duke *Humbry*, or the Cardinal.

[Exeunt *Buckingham* and *Somerſet*.]

Sal. Pride went before, ambition follows him.
While these do labour for their own preferment,
Behoves it us to labour for the realm.
I never saw, but *Humbry* Duke of *Glo'ster*
Did bear him like a noble gentleman.
Oft have I seen the haughty Cardinal
More like a soldier, than a man o'th'church,
As stout and proud as he were Lord of all,
Swear like a ruffian, and demean himself
Unlike the ruler of a common-weal.
Warwick my son, the comfort of my age!
Thy deeds, thy plainness, and thy house-keeping,
Have won the greatest favour of the commons,
Excepting none but good Duke *Humbry*.
And brother *York*, thy acts in *Ireland*,
In bringing them to civil discipline,
Thy late exploits done in the heart of *France*,
When thou wert regent for our sovereign,
Have made thee fear'd and honour'd of the people.
Join we together for the public good,
In what we can, to bridle and suppress
The pride of *Suffolk*, and the Cardinal,
With *Somerſet*'s and *Buckingham*'s ambition ;
And, as we may, cherish Duke *Humbry*'s deeds,
While they do tend the profit of the land,

War.

60 THE SECOND PART OF

War. So God help *Warwick*, as he loves the land,
And common profit of his country!

York. And so says *York*, for he hath greatest cause.
[*Aside.*]

Sal. Then let's make haste, and look unto the main.

War. Unto the main? Oh father, *Maine* is lost;
That *Maine*, which by main force *Warwick* did win,
And would have kept, so long as breath did last:
Main chance, father, you meant; but I meant *Maine*,
Which I will win from *France*, or else be slain.

[*Exeunt Warwick and Salisbury*]

S C E N E III.

Manet York.

York. *Anjou* and *Maine* are given to the *French*;
Paris is lost; the state of *Normandy*
Stands on a tickle point, now they are gone.
Suffolk concluded on the articles,
The peers agreed, and *Henry* was well pleas'd
To change two dukedoms for a duke's fair daughter.
I cannot blame them all, what is't to them?
'Tis thine they give away, and not their own.
Pirates may make cheap penn'worths of their pillage
And purchase friends, and give to courtezans,
Still revelling, like Lords, till all be gone,
While as the silly owner of the goods
Weeps over them, and wrings his hapless hands,
And shakes his head, and trembling stands aloof,
While all is shared, and all is borne away,
Ready to starve, and dares not touch his own.
So *York* must sit, and fret, and bite his tongue,
While his own lands are bargain'd for, and sold.
Methinks, the realms of *England*, *France* and *Ireland*
Bear that proportion to my flesh and blood,
As did the fatal brand *Albion* burnt,
Unto the prince's heart of *Cadydon*.

Anjou

KING HENRY VI.

11

Angou and Maine, both giv'n unto the *French*!
 Cold news for me, for I had hope of *France*,
 Ev'n as I have of fertile *England's* soil.
 A day will come, when *York* shall claim his own;
 And therefore I will take the *Nevills'* parts,
 And make a shew of love to proud Duke *Humphry*,
 And, when I spy advantage, claim the Crown,
 For that's the golden mark I seek to hit.
 Nor shall proud *Lancaster* usurp my right,
 Nor hold the scepter in his childish fist,
 Nor wear the diadem upon his head,
 Whose church-like humour fits not for a Crown.
 Then, *York*, be still a while, till time do serve;
 Watch thou, and wake when others be asleep,
 To pry into the secrets of the State;
 Till *Henry*, surfeiting in joys of love,
 With his new bride, and *England's* dear-bought Queen,
 And *Humphry* with the Peers be fall'n at jars.
 Then will I raise aloft the milk-white Rose,
 With whose sweet smell the air shall be perfum'd;
 And in my standard bear the Arms of *York*,
 To grapple with the house of *Lancaster*;
 And, force perforce, I'll make him yield the Crown,
 Whose bookish Rule hath pull'd fair *England* down.
 [Exit *York*,

SCENE IV.

Changes to the Duke of Gloucester's House.

Enter Duke Humphry, and his Wife Eleanor.

Elean. **W**H Y droops my Lord, like over-ripen'd
 corn
 Hanging the head with *Ceres'* plenteous load?
 Why doth the great Duke *Humphry* knit his brows,
 As frowning at the favours of the world?
 Why are thine eyes fixt to the sullen earth,

Gazing

12 THE SECOND PART OF

Gazing at that which seems to dim thy sight ?
 What seest thou there ? King *Henry's* Diadem,
 Inchas'd with all the honours of the world ?
 If so, gaze on, and grovel on the face,
 Until thy head be circled with the same,
 Put forth thy hand, reach at the glorious Gold.—
 What ! is't too short ? I'll lengthen it with mine.
 And having both together heav'd it up,
 We'll both together lift our heads to heaven ;
 And never more abase our sight so low,
 As to vouchsafe one glance unto the ground.

Glo. O *Nell*, sweet *Nell*, if thou dost love thy Lord,
 Banish the canker of ambitious thoughts ;
 And may that thought, when I imagine Ill
 Against my King and nephew, virtuous *Henry*,
 Be my last Breathing in this mortal world !
 —My troublous dreams this night do make me sad.

Elean. What dream'd my Lord ; tell me, and I'll
 requite it

With sweet rehearsal of my morning's dream.

Glo. Methought, this Staff, mine office-badge in
 Court,

Was broke in twain ; by whom I have forgot ;
 But, as I think, it was by th' Cardinal ;
 And, on the pieces of the broken wand,
 Were plac'd the heads of *Edmund* Duke of *Somerset*,
 And *William de la Pole* first Duke of *Suffolk*.
 This was the dream ; what it doth bode, God knows.

Elean. Tut, this was nothing but an argument,
 That he, that breaks a stick of *Glo'ster's* grove,
 Shall lose his head for his Presumption.
 But list to me, my *Humpbry*, my sweet Duke ;
 Methought, I sat in seat of Majesty,
 In the Cathedral church of *Westminster*,
 And in that chair where Kings and Queens were crown'd,
 Where *Henry* and *Marg'ret* kneel'd to me,
 And on my head did set the Diadem.

Glo. Nay, *Eleanor*, then must I chide outright.

Pre-

Presumptuous Dame, ill-nurtur'd *Eleanor*,
 Art thou not second woman in the Realm,
 And the Protector's wife, belov'd of him?
 Hast thou not worldly pleasure at command,
 Above the reach or compass of thy thought?
 And wilt thou still be hammering treachery,
 To tumble down thy husband, and thyself,
 From top of honour to disgrace's feet?
 Away from me, and let me hear no more.

Elean. What, what, my Lord! are you so cholerick
 With *Eleanor*, for telling but her dream?
 Next time, I'll keep my dreams unto myself,
 And not be check'd.

Glo. Nay, be not angry, I am pleas'd again.

Enter Messenger.

Mes. My Lord Protector, 'tis his Highness' pleasure,
 You do prepare to ride unto St. *Albans*,
 Whereas the King and Queen do mean to hawk.

Glo. I go. Come, *Nell*, thou wilt ride with us?

Elean. Yes, my good Lord, I'll follow presently;
 [*Exit Gloucester.*]

Follow I must, I cannot go before,
 While *Glo'ster* bears this base and humble mind,
 Were I a man, a Duke, and next of blood,
 I would remove these tedious stumbling-blocks;
 And smoothe my way upon their headless necks.
 And being a woman, I will not be slack
 To play my part in Fortune's pageant.
 —Where are you there, Sir *John*? Nay, fear not, man,
 We are alone; here's none but thee and I.

Enter Hume.

Hume. Jesus preserve your Royal Majesty!

Elean. What say'st thou? *Majesty*? I am but *Grace*.

Hume. But by the grace of God, and *Hume's* advice,
 Your

14 THE SECOND PART OF

Your Grace's title shall be multiply'd.

Elean. What say'st thou, man? hast thou as ye conferr'd

With *Margery Jordan*, the cunning witch;
And *Roger Bolingbrook* the conjurer,
And will they undertake to do me good?

Hume. This they have promised, to shew you
Highness

A Spirit rais'd from depth of under-ground,
That shall make answer to such questions,
As by your Grace shall be propounded him.

Elean. It is enough, I'll think upon the questions.
When from *St. Albans* we do make return,
We'll see those things effected to the full.

Here, *Hume*, take this reward. Make merry, man,
With thy confederates in this weighty cause.

[Exit Eleanor]

Hum. *Hume* must make merry with the Dutchess'
gold;

Marry, and shall. But how now, Sir *John Hume*?
Seal up your lips, and give no words, but *mum*!
The business asketh silent secrecy.

Dame *Eleanor* gives gold to bring the witch,
Gold cannot come amiss, were she a devil.
Yet have I gold, flies from another coast,
I dare not say from the rich Cardinal,
And from the great and new-made Duke of *Suffolk*;
Yet I do find it so: for to be plain,
They, knowing Dame *Eleanor*'s aspiring humour,
Have hired me to undermine the Dutchess;
And buz these conjurations in her brain.

They say, a crafty knave does need no broker;
Yet am I *Suffolk*'s, and the Cardinal's, broker.

—*Hume*, If you take not heed, you shall go near
To call them both a pair of crafty knaves.

—Well, so it stands; and thus I fear at last,
Hume's knavery will be the dutchess' wreck,

KING HENRY VI.

15

And her Attainture will be *Humphry's Fall* :

⁷ Sort how it will, I shall have gold for all. [*Exit.*]

SCENE VII.

Changes to an Apartment in the Palace.

Enter three or four Petitioners, Peter the Armourer's man being one.

¹ *Pet.* MY masters, let's stand close ; my Lord Protector will come this way by and by, and then we may deliver our supplications ² in quill.

² *Pet.* Marry, the Lord protect him, for he's a good man, Jesu blefs him !

Enter Suffolk, and Queen.

¹ *Pet.* Here a'comes, methinks, and the Queen with him. I'll be the first, sure.

² *Pet.* Come back, fool, this is the Duke of Suffolk, and not my Lord Protector.

Suf. How now, fellow, wouldst any thing with me ?

¹ *Pet.* I pray, my Lord, pardon me ; I took ye for my Lord Protector.

Q. Mar. To my Lord Protector. [*reading.*] Are your supplications to his lordship ? Let me see them ; what is thine ?

¹ *Pet.* Mine is, an't please your Grace, against *John Goodman*, my Lord Cardinal's man, for keeping my house and lands, and wife, and all from me.

Suf. Thy wife too ? that's some wrong, indeed. What's yours ? what's here ? [*reads.*] *Against the Duke of Suffolk, for inclosing the Commons of Long Melford.* How now, Sir Knave ?

⁷ Sort how it will.] Let the issue be what it will.

Hanmer's reading, the rest have in the quill.

² In quill.] This is *Sib T.*

² *Pet.*

16 THE SECOND PART OF .

2 *Pet.* Alas, Sir, I am but a poor petitioner of our whole Township.

Suf. [*reads.*] *Against my master, Thomas Horner— for saying, that the Duke of York was rightful heir to the Crown.*

Q. Mar. What! did the Duke of York say, he was rightful heir to the Crown?

Peter. That my master was? no, forsooth; my master said, that he was; and that the King was an usurper.

Suf. Who is there?—Take this fellow in, and send for his master with a pursuivant, presently; we'll hear more of your matter before the King.

[*Exit Peter guarded.*—

Q. Mar. And as for you, that love to be protected Under the wings of our Protector's Grace, Begin your suits anew, and sue to him.

[*Tears the supplications.*—

Away, base cullions.—*Suffolk*, let them go.

All. Come, let's be gone. [*Exeunt Petitioners.*—

Q. Mar. My lord of *Suffolk*, say, is this the guise =
Is this the fashion in the Court of *England*?

Is this the government of *Britain's* isle?

And this the royalty of *Albion's* King!

What! shall King *Henry* be a Pupil still,

Under the surly *Glo'ster's* governance?

Am I a Queen in title and in style,

And must be made a Subject to a Duke?

I tell thee, *Pole*, when in the city *Tours*

Thou ran'st a-tilt in honour of my love,

And stol'st away the ladies' hearts of *France*;

I thought, King *Henry* had resembled thee

In courage, courtship, and proportion:

But all his mind is bent to holiness,

To number *Ave Marias* on his beads;

His champions are the Prophets and Apostles;

His weapons holy Saws of sacred Writ;

His study is his tilt-yard; and his loves

Are

Are brazen images of canoniz'd saints.
 I would, the College of the Cardinals
 Would chuse him Pope, and carry him to *Rome*,
 And set the triple Crown upon his head;
 That were a state fit for his holiness!

Suf. Madam, be patient; as I was the cause
 Your Highness came to *England*, so will I
 In *England* work your Grace's full content.

Q. Mar. Beside the proud Protector, have we
Beauford

h'imperious Churchman; *Somerfet*, *Buckingham*,
 and grumbling *York*; and not the least of these
 that can do more in *England*, than the King.

Suf. And he of these, that can do most of all,
 cannot do more in *England* than the *Nevills*;
Gloucester and *Warwick* are no simple Peers.

Q. Mar. Not all these Lords do vex me half so
 much,

as that proud Dame, the Lord Protector's wife;
 she sweeps it through the Court with troops of ladies,
 more like an Empress than Duke *Humphry*'s wife.
 Strangers in Court do take her for the Queen;
 she bears a Duke's revenues on her back,
 and in her heart she scorns our poverty.

Will I not live to be aveng'd on her?
 contemptuous, base born, Callat as she is,
 she vaunted 'mongst her minions t'other day,
 the very train of her worst wearing gown
 was better worth than all my father's lands;
 till *Suffolk* gave two Dukedoms for his daughter!

Suf. Madam, myself have lim'd a bush for her,
 and plac'd a quire of such enticing birds,
 that she will light to listen to their lays?
 And never mount to trouble you again.

So, let her rest; and, Madam, list to me;
 for I am bold to counsel you in this;
 Although we fancy not the Cardinal,
 Yet must we join with him and with the Lords,

Till we have brought Duke *Humphry* in disgrace.
 As for the Duke of *York*, this late complaint *
 Will make but little for his benefit.
 So, one by one, we'll weed them all at last,
 And you yourself shall steer the happy Realm.

S C E N E VI.

To them enter King Henry, Duke Humphry, Cardinal, Buckingham, York, Salisbury, Warwick, and the Dutcheſs of Glouceſter.

K. Henry. For my part, noble Lords, I care not which.

Or *Somerſet*, or *York*. All's one to me.

York. If *York* have ill demean'd himſelf in *France*,
 Then let him be deny'd the Regentſhip.

Som. If *Somerſet* be unworthy of the place,
 Let *York* be Regent, I will yield to him.

War. Whether your Grace be worthy, yea or no,
 Diſpute not that; *York* is the worthier.

Car. Ambitious *Warwick*, let thy Betters ſpeak.

War. The Cardinal's not my better in the field.

Buck. All in this Preſence are thy betters, *Warwick*.

War. *Warwick* may live to be the beſt of all.

Sal. Peace, Son; and ſhew ſome reaſon, *Buckingham*,
 Why *Somerſet* ſhould be preferr'd in this.

Q. Mor. Becauſe the King, forſooth, will have it ſo.

Glo. Madam, the King is old enough himſelf
 To give † his Cenſure. Theſe are no woman's matters.

Q. Mar. If he be old enough, what needs your
 Grace

To be Protector of his Excellence?

Glo. Madam, I am Protector of the Realm;
 And, at his pleaſure, will reſign my place.

* That is, the complaint of
After the armourer's man againſt
 his maſter, for ſaying that *York*
 was the rightful king.

† *His cenſure.*] Through all
 theſe plays *cenſure* is uſed in an
 indifferent ſenſe, ſimply for judg-
 ment or opinion.

KING HENRY VI. 19

f. Resign it then, and leave thine insolence.
 : thou wert King, as who is King, but thou?
 Common-wealth hath daily run to wreck.
 Dauphin hath prevail'd beyond the seas,
 all the Peers, and Nobles of the Realm,
 : been as bond-men to thy sov'reignty.
 r. The Commons hast thou rack'd; the Clergy's
 bags

lank and lean with thy extortions.

n. Thy sumptuous buildings, and thy wife's attire,
 : cost a mass of publick treasury.

ck. Thy cruelty in execution
 : Offenders hath exceeded law;
 left thee to the mercy of the law.

Mar. Thy sale of offices and towns in *France*,
 ey were known, as the suspect is great,
 ld make thee quickly hop without thy head.

[Exit Glo'ster. *The Queen drops her fan.*
 me my fan; what, minion? can ye not?

[Gives the Dutchess a box on the ear.
 you mercy, Madam; was it you?

ean. Was't I? yea, I it was, proud *French-*
woman:

d I come near your beauty with my nails,
 t my ten commandments in your face.

Henry. Sweet aunt, be quiet; 'twas against her
 will.

ean. Against her will?—Good King, look to't in
 time,

I hamper thee and dandle thee like a baby.
 ough in this place most Master wears no breeches,
 shall not strike Dame *Eleanor* unreveng'd.

[Exit Eleanor.

uck. Lord Cardinal, I'll follow *Eleanor*,
 listen after *Humphry*, how he proceeds.
 s tickled now, her fume can need no spurs;
 'll gallop fast enough to her destruction.

[Exit Buckingham.

S C E N E VII.

Re-enter Duke Humphry.

Suf. Before we make election, give me leave
To shew some reason of no little force,
That *York* is most unmeet of any man.

War. That I can witness; and a fouler fact
Did never traitor in the land commit.

Suf. Peace, head-strong *Warwick*.

War. Image of pride, why should I hold my peace

Enter Horner the Armourer, and his Man Peter,
" " " " guarded.

Suf. Because here is a man accus'd of treason.
Pray God, the Duke of *York* excuse himself!

York. Doth any one accuse *York* for a traitor?

K. Hen

KING HENRY VI.

21

K. Henry. What mean'st thou, *Suffolk*? tell me,
what are these?

Suf. Please it your Majesty, this is the man,
That doth accuse his master of high treason.
His words were these; "that *Richard Duke of York*
" Was rightful heir unto the *English* Crown;
" And that your Majesty was an usurper."

K. Henry. Say, man; were these thy words?

Arm. An't shall please your Majesty, I never said
nor thought any such matter. God is my witness, I am
falsly accus'd by the villain.

Peter. By these ten bones, my Lord, [*bolding up his hands*] he did speak them to me in the garret one night,
as we were scow'ring my Lord of *York's* armour.

York. Base dunghill villain, and mechanical,
I'll have thy head for this thy traitor's speech.
I do beseech your royal Majesty,
Let him have all the rigour of the Law.

Arm. Alas, my Lord, hang me, if ever I spake the
words. My accuser is my 'prentice, and when I did
correct him for his fault the other day, he did vow
upon his knees he would be even with me. I have
good witness of this; therefore, I beseech your Ma-
jesty, do not cast away an honest man for a villain's
accusation.

K. Henry. Uncle, what shall we say to this in Law?

Glo. This doom, my Lord, if I may judge.
Let *Somerfet* be Regent o'er the *French*,
Because in *York* this breeds suspicion.
And let these have a day appointed them
For single Combat in convenient place;
For he hath witness of his servant's malice.
This is the law, and this Duke *Humphry's* doom.

K. Henry. ' Then be it so. My Lord of *Somerfet*,
We

' *K. Henry.* *Then be it so, &c.*] These two Lines I have inserted
from the old *Quarto*; and, as I

think, very necessarily. For, with-
out them, the King has not de-
clared his Assent to *Gloucester's*
Opinion :
C 3

We make your Grace Lord Regent over the *French*.

Som. I humbly thank your royal Majesty.

Arm. And I accept the Combat willingly.

Peter. Alas, my Lord, I cannot fight. For God's sake, pity my case; the spight of Man prevaileth against me. O Lord, have mercy upon me! I shall never be able to fight a blow. O Lord, my heart!—

Glo. Sirrah, or you must fight, or else be hang'd.

K. Henry. Away with them to prison; and the day of Combat shall be the last of the next month.

Come, *Somerfet*, we'll see thee sent away.

[*Flourish. Exeunt.*]

S C E N E VIII.

The Witch's Cave.

Enter Mother Jordan, Hume, Southwel, and Bolingbrook.

Hume. COME, my masters; the Dutcheffs, I tell you, expects performance of your promises—

Boling. Master *Hume*, we are therefore provided— Will her ladyship behold and hear our exorcisms?

Hume. Ay, what else? fear not her courage.

Boling. I have heard her reported to be a woman of an invincible spirit; but it shall be convenient, Master *Hume*, that you be by her aloft, while we be busy below; and so I pray you, go in God's name, and leave us. [*Exit. Hume.*] Mother *Jordan*, be prostrate and grovel on the earth; *John Southwel*, read you, and let us to our work.

Enter Eleanor, above.

Elean. Well said, my masters, and welcome to all, To this geer, the sooner the better.

Opinion: and the Duke of *Somerset* the *Regency*, before the King has
is made to thank him for deputed him to it. *THEOBALD*
Boling,

Boling. Patience, good lady. Wizards know the times.

Deep night, dark night, the silent of the night,
The time of night when *Troy* was set on fire,
The time, when screech-owls cry, and ban-dogs howl,
When spirits walk, and ghosts break up their graves,
That time best fits the work we have in hand.
Madam, sit you, and fear not; whom we raise,
We will make fast within a hallow'd verge.

*Here they perform the Ceremonies, and make the circle;
Bolingbrook or Southwel reads, Conjuro te, &c.
It thunders and lightens terribly; then the Spirit
riseth.*

Spirit. Adsum.

M. Ford. Asmuth, by the eternal God, whose name
And power thou tremblest at, tell what I ask;
For till thou speak, thou shalt not pass from hence.

Spirit. Ask what thou wilt.—That I had said, and done!

Boling. First, of the King. What shall of him become?

Spirit. The Duke yet lives, that *Henry* shall depose,
But him out-live, and die a violent death.

[As the Spirit speaks, they write the answer.]

Boling. Tell me, what fates await the Duke of *Suffolk*?

Spirit. By water shall he die, and take his end.

Boling. What shall befall the Duke of *Somerſet*?

Spirit. Let him shun Castles.

Safer shall he be on the sandy plains,

Deep night, dark night, the silent of the night.] *The silent of the night* is a classical expression: and means an interlunar night.—*Amica silentia Lunæ.* So *Pliny*, *Inter omnes verò convenit, utilissimè in coitu ejus sterni, quem diem alii interlunii,*

alii silentis Lunæ appellant. Lib. xvi. cap. 30. In imitation of this language, *Milton* says,
*The Sun to me is dark
And silent as the Moon,
When she deserts the night,
Hid in her vacant interlunar
Cave.* WARBURTON.

THE SECOND PART OF

Than where Castles mounted stand.

I have done, for more I hardly can endure.

Boling. Descend to darkness, and the burning lake :
False fiend, avoid !

[*Thunder and Lightning. Spirit descends.*]

*Enter the Duke of York, and the Duke of Buckingham,
with their Guard, and break in.*

York. Lay hands upon these traitors, and their traffe.

—Beldame, I think, we watch'd you at an inch.

—What, Madam, are you there ? the King and Realm
Are deep indebted for this piece of pains.

My Lord Protector will, I doubt it not,

See you well guerdon'd for these good deserts.

Elean. Not half so bad as thine to *England's* King.
Injurious Duke, that threat'st where is no cause.

Buck. True, Madam, none at all. What call you
this ?

Away with them, let them be clap'd up close,

And kept apart. You, Madam, shall with us.

Stafford, take her to thee.

We'll see your Trinkets here forth-coming all.

[*Exeunt Guards with Jordan, Southwel, &c.*]

York. * Lord *Buckingham*, methinks, you watch'd
her well.

A pretty Plot, well chose to build upon.

Now, pray, my Lords, let's see the devil's Writ.

What have we here ?

[*Reads,*

The Duke yet lives, that Henry shall depose ;

But him out-live, and die a violent death.

Why, this is just, *Aio te, Eacida, Romanos vincere
posse.*

Well, to the rest,

* *Lord Puckingham, methinks,*
&c.] This repetition of the
prophecies, which is altogether
unnecessary, after what the spec-

tators had heard in the Scene im-
mediately preceding, is not to
be found in the first edition of
this Play.

KING HENRY VI.

95

me, what fate awaits the Duke of Suffolk?

He shall be die, and take his end.

It shall betide the Duke of Somerset?

in sun Castles,

shall be be on the sandy plains,

where Castles mounted stand.

Now, come, my Lords;

These Oracles are hardly attain'd,

hardly understood.

King is now in progress tow'ards St. Albans,

Whom, the husband of this lovely lady,

Let her go these news, as fast as horse can carry them;

My breakfast for my Lord Protector.

York. Your Grace shall give me leave, my Lord of
York,

Let the Post, in hope of his reward.

York. At your pleasure, my good Lord.

'Tis within there, ho?

Enter a Serving-man.

Let my Lords of Salisbury and Warwick,

Come up with me to-morrow night. Away! [*Exeunt.*]

These Oracles are hardly attain'd,

hardly understood.] Not

the Lameness of the Ver-

se, but the Imperfection of

sense too, made me suspect

affage to be corrupt. York,

By the Parties and their Pa-

trials, he'll see the Devil's

work; and finding the Wizard's

words intricate and ambiguous,

He takes this general Comment

upon such sort of Intelligence, as
I have restor'd the Text:

These Oracles are hardly at-
tain'd,

And hardly understood.

i. e. A great Risque and Hazard

is run to obtain them; and yet,

after these *hardy* Steps taken, the

informations are so perplex'd that

they are *hardly* to be understood,

THEOBALD.

A C T

ACT II. SCENE I.

*At St. ALBANS.**Enter King Henry, Queen, Protector, Cardinal, and Suffolk, with Faulknors ballooing.*

Q. MARGARET.

BELIEVE me, lords, ⁴ for flying at the brook
 I saw no better sport these seven years' day;
 Yet, by your leave, ⁵ the wind was very high,
 And, ten to one, old Joan had not gone out.

K. Henry. But what a point, my lord, your Faulcon made,

And what a pitch she flew above the rest.

To see how God in all his creatures works!—

Yea, man and birds are fain of climbing high.

Suf. No marvel, an it like your Majesty,

My lord Protector's hawks do tow'r so well;

They know, their Master loves to be aloft,

And bears his thoughts above his Faulcon's pitch.

Glo. My Lord, 'tis but a base ignoble mind,
 That mounts no higher than a bird can soar.

Car. I thought as much. He'd be above the cloud

Glo. Ay, my lord Card'nal, how think you by that
 Were it not good, your Grace could fly to heav'n?

K. Henry. The treasury of everlasting joy!

Car. Thy heaven is on earth, thine eyes and thought
 Bent on a Crown, the treasure of thy heart,

⁴ For flying at the brook.] The falconer's term for hawking at water-fowl. with falconry than myself, th

⁵ The wind was very high, And, ten to one, old Joan had not gone out.] I am told by the meaning, however expresse is, that, the wind being high, was ten to one that the old hawk had flown quite away; a trick which hawks often play the masters in windy weather.

icious Protector, dangerous Peer,
it smooth'st it so with King and Common-weal!
lo. What, Cardinal! Is your priesthood grown so
peremptory?

ane animis Cælestibus ira?

richmen so hot? good uncle, hide such malice.
ith such Holiness can you do it?

f. No malice, Sir, no more than well becomes
ood a quarrel, and so bad a Peer.

o. As who, my Lord?

f. Why, as yourself, my Lord;
like your lordly, lord Protectorship.

o. Why, *Suffolk, England* knows thine insolence,

Mar. And thy ambition, *Glo'ster.*

Henry. I pr'ythee, peace, good Queen;
whet not on these too too furious Peers,
blessed are the peace-makers on earth.

r. Let me be blessed for the peace I make,
ast this proud Protector, with my sword!

o. Faith, holy uncle, 'would 'twere come
to that.

r. Marry, when thou dar'st.

o. Make up no factious numbers for the
matter,

ine own person answer thy abuse.

r. Ay, where thou dar'st not peep; and,
if thou dar'st,

Ev'ning on the east-side of the grove.

Aside.

With such Holiness can you
do it? Do what? the verse
a foot, we should read,
such Holiness can you not
do it?

ironically. By holiness
ins hypocrisy: and says,
you not hypocritise enough
your malice?

WARBURTON.
verse is lame enough as-
femendation, nor does the

negative particle improve the
sense. When words are omitted
it is not often easy to say what
they were if there is a per-
fect sense without them. I read,
but somewhat at random,

*A Churchman, with such boli-
ness can yeu do it?*

The transcriber saw *churchman*
just above, and therefore omitted
it in the second line.

K. Henry,

K. Henry. How now, my Lords?

Car. Believe me, cousin Glo'ster,
Had not your man put up the fowl so suddenly,
We'd had more sport——? Come with thy two-hand
sword. [Aside to Glo'ste

Glo. True, uncle.

Car. Are you advis'd?—the east side of the Grove

Glo. Cardinal, I am with you. [Aside

K. Henry. Why, how now, uncle Glo'ster?

Glo. Talking of hawking; nothing else, my Lord.—
Now, by God's mother, Priest, I'll shave your crown
for this,

Or all my Fence shall fail. [Aside

Car. [Aside.] *Medice, teipsum.*

Protector, see to't well, protect yourself.

K. Henry. The winds grow high, so do your stomachs, Lords.

How irksome is this musick to my heart!
When such strings jar, what hopes of harmony?
I pray, my Lords, let me compound this strife.

S C E N E II.

Enter One, crying, A Miracle!

Glo. What means this noise?

Fellow, what miracle dost thou proclaim?

One. A miracle! a miracle!

Suf. Come to the King, and tell him what miracle

One. Forsooth, a blind man at St. Alban's shrine,

——Come with thy two-hand
Sword.

Glo. True, Uncle, are ye advis'd? the East side of the
Grove.

Cardinal, I am with You.]

Thus is the whole Speech plac'd
to Glo'ster, in all the Editions:
but surely, with great inadvertence.

It is the Cardinal, who first appoints the East-side of Grove: and how finely does express Rancour and Impetuosity for fear Gloucester should take, to repeat the Appointment and ask his Antagonist if he takes him right! THEOB.

With

Within this half hour hath receiv'd his sight,
A man, that ne'er saw in his life before.

K. Henry. Now God be prais'd, that to believing
souls
Gives light in darkness, comfort in despair!

Enter the Mayor of St. Albans, and his brethren, bearing Simpcox between two in a chair, Simpcox's wife following.

Car. Here come the townsmen on procession,
Before your Highness to present the man.

K. Henry. Great is his comfort in this earthly vale,
Though by his sight his sin be multiply'd.

Glo. Stand by, my masters. Bring him near the King,
His Highness' pleasure is to talk with him.

K. Henry. Good fellow, tell us here the circumstance,
That we, for thee, may glorify the Lord.
What hast thou been long blind, and now restor'd?

Simp. Born blind, an't please your Grace.

Wife. Ay, indeed, was he.

Suf. What woman is this?

Wife. His wife, an't like your worship.

Glo. Had'st thou been his mother, thou couldst have
better told.

K. Henry. Where wert thou born?

Simp. At *Berwick* in the north, an't like your Grace.

K. Henry. Poor Soul! God's goodness hath been
great to thee.

Let never day or night unhallowed pass,
But still remember what the Lord hath done.

Queen. Tell me, good fellow, cam'st thou here by
chance,

Or of devotion, to this holy shrine?

Simp. God knows, of pure devotion, being call'd
A hundred times and oftner, in my sleep,

THE SECOND PART OF

Bead. I will, my Lord. Come on, Sirrah. Off with your doublet quickly.

Simp. Alas, master, what shall I do? I am not able to stand.

[*After the beadle hath hit him once, he leaps over the stool and runs away; and they follow and cry, a miracle!*]

K. Henry. O God, see'st thou this, and bear'st it long!

Queen. It made me laugh to see the villain run.

Glo. Follow the knave, and take this drab away.

Wife. Alas, Sir, we did it for pure need.

Glo. Let them be whipt through every market town till they come to *Berwick*, from whence they came.

[*Exit beadle with the women*]

Car. Duke *Humphry* has done a miracle to day.

Suf. True, made the lame to leap, and fly away.

Glo. But you have done more miracles than I; You made in a day, my Lord, whole towns to fly.

S C E N E III.

Enter Buckingham.

K. Henry. What tidings with our cousin *Buckingham*?

Buck. Such as my heart doth tremble to unfold.
A sort of naughty persons, lewdly bent,
Under the countenance and confederacy
Of lady *Eleanor*, the Protector's wife,
The ring-leader and head of all this rout,
Have practis'd dangerously against your state.
Dealing with witches and with Conjurers,
Whom we have apprehended in the fact,
Raising up wicked Spirits from under ground;
Demanding of King *Henry's* life and death,
And other of your Highness' Privy-council,

As more at large your Grace shall understand.

Car. And so, my Lord Protector, by this means
'Your Lady is forth⁴coming yet at *London*:
This news, I think, hath turn'd your weapon's edge.
'Tis like, my Lord; you will not keep your hour.

[*Aside to Glo'ster.*

Glo. Ambitious Church-man! leave t' afflict my heart!
Sorrow and grief have vanquish'd all my powers;
And vanquish'd as I am, I yield to thee;
Or to the meanest groom.

K. Henry. O God, what mischiefs work the wicked
ones;

Heaping confusion on their own heads thereby!

Queen. Glo'ster, see here the tainture of thy nest;
And look, thyself be faultless, thou wert best.

Glo. Madam, for myself, to heav'n I do appeal,
How I have lov'd my King and common-weal;
And for my wife, I know not how it stands.

Sorry am I to hear what I have heard;
Noble she is; but if she have forgot
Honour and Virtue, and convers'd with such
As, like to pitch, defile Nobility,
I banish her my bed and company;
And give her as a prey to law and shame,
That hath dishonour'd *Glo'ster's* honest name.

K. Henry. Well, for this night we will repose us
here;

To morrow toward *London* back again,

To look into this business thoroughly.

And call these foul offenders to their answers;

'And poise the Cause in Justice' equal scales,

Whose beam stands sure, whose rightful cause prevails.

[*Flourish. Exeunt.*

⁹ *Your Lady is forth-coming.]*

That is, your Lady is in custody.

¹ *And poise the Cause in justice'*
equal scales,

Whose beam stands sure, whose
rightful cause prevails.] The

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sense will, I think, be mended
if we read in the optative mood,

————— *Justice' equal scales,*
Whose beam stand sure, whose
rightful cause prevail.

D

S C E N E

SCENE IV.

Changes to the Duke of York's Palace.

Enter York, Salisbury, and Warwick.

York. **N**OW, my good Lords of *Salisbury* & *Warwick*,
Our simple supper ended, give me leave,
In this close walk to satisfy myself;
In craving your opinion of my Title,*
Which is infallible, to *England's* Crown.

Sal. My Lord, I long to hear it thus at full.

War. Sweet *York*, begin; and if thy Claim be go
The *Nevills* are thy Subjects to command.

York. Then thus:

Edward the Third, my Lords, had seven sons:
The first, *Edward* the black Prince, Prince of *Wa*
The second, *William* of *Hatfield*; and the third,
Lionel Duke of *Clarence*; next to whom
Was *John* of *Gaunt*, the Duke of *Lancaster*;
The fifth was *Edmond* *Langley*, Duke of *York*;
The sixth was *Thomas* of *Woodstock*, Duke of *Glo's*
William of *Windsor* was the seventh and last.
Edward the black Prince dy'd before his father,
And left behind him *Richard*, his only son,
Who, after *Edward* the Third's death, reign'd Ki
Till *Henry* *Bolingbroke*, Duke of *Lancaster*,
The eldest son and heir of *John* of *Gaunt*,
Crown'd by the name of *Henry* the Fourth,
Seiz'd on the realm; depos'd the rightful King;
Sent his poor Queen to *France* from whence she ca
And him to *Pomfret*; where, as all you know,
Harmless King *Richard* trait'rously was murder'd.

War. Father, the Duke hath told the truth;
Thus got the house of *Lancaster* the Crown.

* In craving your opinion of my Title, crown.] I know not whether he means the opim
Which is infallible, to England's the title is infallible.

KING HENRY VI. 35

York. Which now they hold by force, and not by right ;

For *Richard* the first son's heir being dead,
The Issue of the next son should have reign'd.

Sal. But *William* of *Hatfield* dy'd without an heir.

York. The third son, duke of *Clarence*, from whose
Line

I claim the Crown, had issue *Philip*, a daughter,
Who married *Edmond Mortimer*, Earl of *March*.

Edmond had issue, *Roger* Earl of *March* :

Roger had issue, *Edmond*, *Anne*, and *Eleanor*.

Sal. This *Edmond*, in the reign of *Bolingbroke*,
As I have read, laid Claim unto the Crown ;
And, but for *Owen Glendower*, had been King ;
Who kept him in captivity, till he dy'd.
But, to the rest——

York. His eldest sister, *Anne*,
My mother, being heir unto the Crown,
Married *Richard* Earl of *Cambridge*,
Who was the son to *Edmond Langley*,
Edward the Third's fifth son.
By her I claim the Kingdom ; she was heir
To *Roger* Earl of *March*, who was the son
Of *Edmond Mortimer*, who married *Philip*,
Sole daughter unto *Lionel* Duke of *Clarence*.
So, if the issue of the elder son
Succeed before the younger, I am King.

War. What plain proceeding is more plain than this ?
Henry doth claim the Crown from *John* of *Gaunt*,
The fourth son ; *York* here claims it from the third,
Till *Lionel's* issue fail, his should not reign ;
It fails not yet, but flourisheth in thee
And in thy sons, fair slips of such a stock.
Then, father *Salisbury*, kneel we together,
And in this private Plot be we the first,
That shall salute our rightful Sovereign
With honour of his birth-right to the Crown.

Botb. Long live our Sov'reign *Richard, England's King!*

York. We thank you, Lords: but I am not your King,
'Till I be crown'd; and that my sword be stain'd
With heart-blood of the House of *Lancaster*:
And that's not suddenly to be perform'd,
But with advice and silent secrecy.
Do you, as I do, in these dang'rous days,
Wink at the Duke of *Suffolk's* Insolence,
At *Beauford's* Pride, at *Somerset's* Ambition,
At *Buckingham*, and all the crew of them;
Till they have snar'd the shepherd of the flock.
That virtuous Prince, the good Duke *Humphry*,
'Tis that they seek; and they in seeking that
Shall seek their deaths, if *York* can prophesy.

Sal. My Lord, here break we off; we know your mind.

War. My heart assures me, that the Earl of *Warwick*
Shall one day make the Duke of *York* a King.

York. And, *Nevill*, this I do assure myself,
Richard shall live to make the Earl of *Warwick*
The greatest man in *England*, but the King. [*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E V.

Changes to a House near Smithfield.

Sound Trumpets. Enter King Henry and Nobles; the Dutchess, Mother Jordan, Southwel, Hume, and Bolinbrook; under guard.

K. Henry. **S**TAND forth, Dame *Eleanor Cobham*,
Glo'ster's wife,

In fight of God and us your guilt is great;
Receive the sentence of the law for sins,
Such as by God's Book are adjudg'd to death.

—You four from hence to prison back again;

[*To the other prisoners.*]

From thence unto the place of execution.

The Witch in *Smithfield* shall be burn'd to ashes.

And you three shall be strangled on the gallows.

—You,

—You, Madam, for you are more nobly born,
Despoiled of your honour in your life,
Shall after three days open Penance done,
Live in your country here, in Banishment,
With Sir *John Stanley* in the *Isle of Man*.

Elean. Welcome is exile, welcome were my death.

Glo. The law, thou seest, hath judg'd thee, *Eleanor* ;
I cannot justify, whom law condemns.

[*Exeunt Eleanor, and the others, guarded.*]

Mine eyes are full of tears, my heart of grief.
Alb, Humphry ! this dishonour in thine age
Will bring thy head with sorrow to the ground.
Beseech your Majesty, give me leave to go ;
Sorrow would Solace, and my age would Ease. *

K. Henry. Stay *Humphry*, Duke of *Glo'ster* ; ere
thou go,

Give up thy staff ; *Henry* will to himself
Protector be, and God shall be my hope,
My stay, my guide, and lanthorn to my feet.
And go in peace, *Humphry*, no less belov'd,
Than when thou wert Protector to thy King.

Q. Mar. I see no reason, why a King of years
Should be to be protected like a child :

God and King *Henry* govern *England's* realm : *
Give up your staff, Sir, and the king his realm.

Glo. My staff ? here, noble *Henry*, is my staff ;
As willingly do I the same resign,
As e'er thy father *Henry* made it mine ;
And even as willing at thy feet I leave it,
As others would ambitiously receive it.
Farewel, good King ; when I am dead and gone,
May honourable peace attend thy throne. [*Exit Glo'ster.*]

* *Sorrow would solace, and my age would Ease.*] That is, *sorrow would have, sorrow requires place, and age requires ease.*

* *God and King Henry govern England's realm :*] The
ord realm at the end of two

lines together is displeasing ;
and when it is considered that
much of this scene is written in
rhyme, it will not appear impro-
bable that the author wrote,
govern England's helm.

Q. Mar. Why, now is *Henry King*, and *Marg'ret*
Queen.

And *Humphry*, Duke of *Glo'ster*, scarce himself,
That bears so shrew'd a maim ; two pulls at once ;
His lady banish'd, and a limb lost off.

'This staff of honour raught, there let it stand,
Where best it fits to be, in *Henry's* hand.

Suf. Thus drops this lofty pine, and hangs his
sprays ;

Thus *Eleanor's* pride dies in her younger days.

York. Lords, let him go. Please it your Majesty,
This is the day appointed for the combat,
And ready are th' appellants and defendant,
The armourer and his man, to enter the lists,
So please your Highness to behold the fight.

Q. Mar. Ay, good my Lord ; for purposely therefore
Left I the court, to see this quarrel try'd.

K. Henry, A'God's name, see the lists and all things
fit ;

Here let them end it, and God guard the right !

York. I never saw a fellow worse bestead,³
Or more afraid to fight, than is th' appellant,
The servant of the armourer, my Lords.

S C E N E VI.

Enter at one door the armourer and his neighbours, drinking to him so much, that he is drunk ; and he enters with a drum before him, and his staff⁴ with a sand-

³ — *worse bestead,*] In a worse plight.

⁴ *with a Sand-bag fastened to it.*] As, according to the old laws of duels, Knights were to fight with the lance and sword ; so those of inferior rank fought with an *Ebon* staff or battoon, to the farther end of which was

fix'd a bag cram'd hard with sand. To this custom *Hudibras* has alluded in these humorous lines,

Engag'd with money bags, at bold

As men with Sand-bags did of old. WAREBURTON.

bag fastened to it; and at the other door his man, with a drum and sand-bag, and prentices drinking to him.

1 *Neigh.* Here, neighbour *Horner*, I drink to you a cup of sack; and fear not, neighbour, you shall well enough.

2 *Neigh.* And here, neighbour, here's a cup of charneco.

3 *Neigh.* And here's a pot of good double beer, neighbour; drink, and fear not your man.

Arm. Let it come, i'faith, and I'll pledge you all; and a fig for *Peter*.

1 *Pren.* Here, *Peter*, I drink to thee, and be not afraid.

2 *Pren.* Be merry, *Peter*, and fear not thy master; fight for the credit of the 'prentices.

Peter. I thank you all; drink, and pray for me, I pray you; for, I think, I have taken my last draught in this world. Here, *Robin*: if I die, I give thee my pron; and, *Will*, thou shalt have my hammer; and ere, *Tom*, take all the mony that I have. O Lord, bless me I pray God; for I am never able to deal with my master, he hath learn'd so much fence already.

[*a cup of charneco.*] On which the *Oxford Editor* thus criticises in his *Index*. *This seems to have been a cant word for some strong liquor, which was apt to bring drunken fellows to the stocks, &c. in Spanish Charniegos is a common cant word, but a common name for a sort of sweet wine, &c. appears from a passage in a pamphlet, intitled, The discovery of a London Monster, called the black dog of Newgate, printed 1612. Some drinking the neat*

wine of Orleance, some the Gascony, some the Bourdeaux. There wanted neither sherry, sack nor charneco, maligo nor amber-colour'd candy, nor liquorish ipocras, brown beloved ballard, fat aligant, or any quick-spirited liquor.—And as *charneca* is, in *Spanish*, the name of a kind of turpentine tree, I imagine the growth of it was in some district abounding with that tree; or that it had its name from a certain flavour resembling it.

WARBURTON.

Sal. Come, leave your drinking, and fall to blows, Sirrah, what's thy name?

Peter. Peter, forsooth.

Sal. Peter? what more?

Peter. Thump.

Sal. Thump? Then see thou thump thy master well.

Arm. Masters, I am come hither as it were upon my man's instigation, to prove him a knave and myself an honest man: and touching the Duke of York, I will take my death I never meant him any ill, nor the King, nor the Queen; and therefore, *Peter*, have at thee with a downright blow. As *Bevis of Southampton* fell upon *Ascapart*.⁶

York. Dispatch. This knave's tongue begins to double, Sound trumpets; alarum to the combatants.

[*They fight, and Peter strikes him down.*]

Arm. Hold, *Peter*, hold; I confess, I confess treason. [Dies.]

York. Take away his weapon: fellow, thank God, and the good wine in thy master's way.

Peter. O God, have I overcome mine enemy in this presence?

O *Peter*, thou hast prevail'd in right.

K. Henry. Go, take hence that traitor from our sight, For by his death we do perceive his guilt.

And God in justice hath reveal'd to us

The truth and innocence of this poor fellow,

Which he had thought to murder wrongfully,

Come, fellow, follow us for thy reward. [Exeunt.]

⁶ as *Bevis of Southampton* fell upon *Ascapart*.] I have added story. *Ascapart* was the giant of the this from the old quarto. WARE.

KING HENRY VI. 41

SCENE VII.

The Street.

Enter Duke Humphry and his Men, in Mourning Cloaks.

THUS sometimes hath the brightest day a
cloud;

after summer, evermore succeeds
barren winter with his nipping cold;
sorrow and joys abound, as seasons fleet.

What's a clock?

My Lord.

Ten is the hour that was appointed me,
to watch the coming of my punish'd dutchess.
Heaven may she endure the flinty streets,
to tread them with her tender-feeling feet.
But Nell, ill can thy noble mind a-brook
to see base people gazing on thy face,
and envious looks still laughing at thy shame;
The first did follow thy proud chariot-wheels,
when thou didst ride in triumph thro' the streets,
soft! I think, she comes; and I'll prepare
tear-stain'd eyes to see her miseries.

*Enter the Dutches in a white Sheet, her feet bare, and
Taper burning in her hand, with Sir John Stanley,
Sheriff and Officers.*

My Lord. So please your Grace, we'll take her from the
Sheriff.

No. No, stir not for your lives. Let her pass by.

My Lord. Come you, my Lord, to see my open shame?
When thou dost penance too. Look, how they gaze!
How the giddy multitude do point,

[Unnecessarily] i. e. scarcely. POPE.

And

And nod their heads, and throw their eyes on thee !
 Ah, *Glo'ster*, hide thee from their hateful looks ;
 And in thy closet pent up, rue my shame,
 And ban our enemies, both mine and thine.

Glo. Be patient, gentle *Nell* ; forget this grief.

Elean. Ah ! *Glo'ster*, teach me to forget myself ;
 For whilst I think I am thy marry'd wife,
 And thou a prince, Protector of this land ;
 Methinks, I should not thus be led along,
 * Mail'd up in shame, with papers on my back ;
 And follow'd with a rabble, that rejoice
 To see my tears, and hear my deep-fetch'd groans ;
 The ruthless flint doth cut my tender feet,
 And when I start, the cruel people laugh,
 And bid me be advised how I tread.
 Ah ! *Humphry*, can I bear this shameful yolk ?
 Trow'st thou, that e'er I'll look upon the world,
 Or count them happy, that enjoy the sun ?
 No, dark shall be my light, and night my day.
 To think upon my pomp, shall be my hell.
 Sometime I'll say, I am Duke *Humphry's* wife,
 And he a Prince, and ruler of the land,
 Yet so he rul'd, and such a Prince he was,
 That he stood by, whilst I, his forlorn dutchesse,
 Was made a wonder and a pointing-stock
 To every idle, rascal follower.
 But be thou mild, and blush not at my shame,
 Nor stir at nothing, till the ax of death
 Hang over thee, as, sure, it shortly will.
 For *Suffolk*, he that can do all in all
 With her, that hateth thee and hates us all,
 And *York*, and impious *Beauford*, that false priest,
 Have all lim'd bushes to betray thy wings ;
 And fly thou, how thou canst, they'll tangle thee :
 But fear not thou, until thy foot be snar'd,

* Mail'd up in shame, ———] grace ; alluding to the sheet
 Wrapped up ; bundled up in dis- penance.

KING HENRY VI.

43

Nor never seek prevention of thy foes.

Glo. Ah, *Nell*, forbear; thou aimest all awry,
I must offend, before I be attainted;
And, had I twenty times so many foes,
And each of them had twenty times their power,
All these could not procure me any scathe,
So long as I am loyal, true, and crimeless.
Wouldst have me rescue thee from this reproach?
Why, yet thy scandal were not wip'd away;
But I in danger for the breach of law.
* Thy greatest help is quiet, gentle *Nell*,
I pray thee, sort thy heart to patience.
These few days' wonder will be quickly worn.

Enter a Herald.

Her. I summon your Grace to his Majesty's parliament holden at *Bury*, the first of this next month.

Glo. And my consent ne'er ask'd herein before?
This is close dealing. Well, I will be there.

[Exit Herald.]

My Nell, I take my leave. And master Sheriff,
Let not her penance exceed the King's commission.

Sher. An't please your Grace, here my commission stays;

And Sir *John Stanley* is appointed now,
To take her with him to the *Isle of Man*.

Glo. Must you, Sir *John*, protect my lady here?

Stan. So am I giv'n in charge, may't please your Grace,

Glo. Entreat her not the worse, in that I pray
You use her well; the world may laugh again;^{*}
And I may live to do you kindness, if
You do it her. And so, Sir *John*, farewell.

Elean. What gone, my Lord, and bid me not farewell?

* *Thy greatest help is quiet,—*
The poet has not endeavoured
to raise much compassion for the
gutchers, who indeed suffers but

what she had deserved. ———
* — *the world may laugh—*
That is, the world may look
again favourably upon me.

44 THE SECOND PART OF

Glo. Witness my tears, I cannot stay to speak.

[*Exit Gloucester.*]

Elean. Art thou gone too? all comfort go with thee!
For none abides with me; my joy is death;
Death, at whose name I oft have been afraid,
Because I wish'd this world's eternity.

Stanley, I pr'ythee, go and take me hence,
I care not whither, for I beg no favour;
Only convey me where thou art commanded.

Stan. Why, Madam, that is to the *Isle of Man*;
There to be us'd according to your state.

Elean. That's bad enough, for I am but reproach.
And shall I then be us'd reproachfully?

Stan. No; like a Dutches, and Duke *Humpbry's*
lady,

According to that state you shall be us'd.

Elean. Sheriff, farewell, and better than I fare;
Although thou hast been conduct of my shame.

Sher. It is my office. Madam, pardon me.

Elean. Ay, ay. Farewel. Thy office is discharg'd.
Come, *Stanley*, shall we go?

Stan. Madam, your penance done, throw off this
sheet,

And go we to attire you for our journey.

Elean. My shame will not be shifted with my sheet,
No, it will hang upon my richest robes,
And shew itself, attire me how I can.

—Go, lead the way, * I long to see my prison. [*Exeunt.*]

* — *I long to see my prison.*] is desirable in a state of disgrace
This impatience of a high spirit to be sheltered from the scorn of
is very natural. It is not so gazers.
dreadful to be imprisoned, as it

ACT

ACT III. SCENE I.

At BURY.

Enter King Henry, Queen, Cardinal, Suffolk, York, Buckingham, Salisbury and Warwick, to the Parliament.

K. HENRY.

[Muse, my Lord of *Glo'ster* is not come;
'Tis not his wont to be the hindmost man,
Whate'er occasion keeps him from us now.

Q. Mar. Can you not see, or will you not observe
The strangeness of his alter'd countenance,
With what a majesty he bears himself,
How insolent of late he is become,
How peremptory and unlike himself?
We know the time, since he was mild and affable;
And, if we did but glance a far-off look,
Immediately he was upon his knee;
That all the court admir'd him for submission.
But meet him now, and be it in the morn,
When ev'ry one will give the time of day,
He knits his brow and shews an angry eye,
And passeth by with stiff unbowed knee,
Disdaining duty that to us belongs.
Small curs are not regarded, when they grin,
But great men tremble when the lion roars,
And *Humphry* is no little man in *England*.
First note, that he is near you in descent,
And, should you fall, he is the next will mount.
' Me seemeth then, it is no policy,

' Me seemeth——] That is, has, I know not how, intruded
it seemeth to me, a word more into its place.
grammatical than methinks, which

Respecting

THE SECOND PART OF

Thus are my blossoms blasted in the bud,
And caterpillars eat my leaves away.
But I will remedy ³ this gear ere long,
Or sell my title for a glorious grave.

[*Aside.*]

S C E N E II.

Enter Gloucester.

Glo. All happiness unto my Lord the King!
Pardon, my Liege, that I have staid so long.

Suf. Nay, *Glo'ster*, know that thou art come too soon,
Unless thou wert more loyal than thou art.
I do arrest thee of high treason here.

Glo. Well, *Suffolk*, yet thou shalt not see me blush,
Nor change my countenance for this Arrest,
A heart unspotted is not easily daunted.
The purest spring is not so free from mud
As I am clear from treason to my Sovereign.
Who can accuse me? Wherein am I guilty?

York. 'Tis thought, my Lord, that you took bribes
of *France*,

And, being protector, staid the soldiers' pay;
By means whereof his Highness hath lost *France*.

Glo. Is it but thought so? what are they that think it?
I never robb'd the soldiers of their pay,
Nor ever had one penny bribe from *France*,
So help me God! as I have watch'd the night,
Ay, night by night, in studying good for *England*.
That do it that e'er I wrested from the King,
Or any groat I hoarded to my use,
Be brought against me at my trial day!
No; many a pound of my own proper store,
Because I would not tax the needy commons,
Have I disbursed to the garrisons,
And never ask'd for restitution.

³ —*this gear*] *Gear* was a general word for *thing* or *matters*.

KING HENRY VI.

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r. It serves you well, my Lord, to say so much.

o. I say no more than truth, so help me God!

r. In your protectorship you did devise
ge tortures for offenders, never heard of,

England was defam'd by tyranny.

o. Why, 'tis well known, that, while I was pro-
tector,

was all the fault that was in me,

I should melt at an offender's tears,

lowly words were ransom for their fault;

as it were a bloody murderer,

such felonious thief that fleec'd poor passengers,

never gave them condign punishment.

And, indeed, that bloody sin I tortur'd

even the felon, or what trespass else.

r. My Lord, these faults are easy, quickly an-
swer'd :

weightier crimes are laid unto your charge,

whereof you cannot easily purge yourself.

I will arrest you in his Highness' name,

and here commit you to my Lord Cardinal

to keep, until your further time of trial.

Henry. My Lord of *Gloster*, 'tis my special hope

that you will clear yourself from all suspicion;

and conscience tells me you are innocent.

o. Ah, gracious Lord, these days are dangerous,

where is choak'd with foul ambition,

where charity chas'd hence by Rancour's hand,

where subornation is predominant,

where equity exil'd your Highness' Land.

Now, their complot is to have my life,

and if my death might make this island happy,

let me prove the period of their tyranny,

and would expend it with all willingness.

My death is made the prologue to their play;

— *these faults are easy.*] *Easy* is *slight*, inconsiderable, as
other passages of this authour.

For thousands more, that yet suspect no peril,
 Will not conclude their plotted tragedy.
Beauford's red sparkling eyes blab his heart's malice,
 And *Suffolk's* cloudy brow his storm'd hate ;
 Sharp *Buckingham* unburdens with his tongue
 The envious load that lies upon his heart ;
 And dogged *York*, that reaches at the moon,
 Whose over-weening arm I have pluck'd back,
 By false accuse doth level at my life.
 And you, my sovereign lady, with the rest ;
 Causeless have laid disgraces on my head ;
 And with your best endeavour have stirr'd up,
 My ^{dearest} Liege to be mine enemy :
 Ay, all of you have laid your heads together ;
 (Myself had notice of your conventicles)
 And all to make away my guiltless life.
 I shall not want false witnesses to condemn me,
 Nor store of treasons to augment my guilt :
 The antient proverb will be well effected,
A staff is quickly found to beat a dog.

Car. My Liege, his railing is intolerable.
 If those, that care to keep your royal person
 From treason's secret knife and traitor's rage
 Be thus upbraided, chid and rated at,
 And the offender granted scope of speech,
 'Twill make them cool in zeal unto your Grace.

Suf. Hath he not twit our sovereign lady here
 With ignominious words, though clarkly coucht ?
 As if she had suborned some to swear
 False allegations, to o'erthrow his state.

Q. Mar. But I can give the loser leave to chide.

Glo. Far truer spoke than meant ; I lose indeed ;
 Beshrew the winners, for they play'd me false ;
 And well such losers may have leave to speak.

Buck. He'll wrest the sense, and hold us here all day
 — Lord Cardinal, he is your prisoner.

Liege is dearest.

KING HENRY VI.

51

Car. Sirs, take away the Duke, and guard him sure.

Gla. Ah, thus King *Henry* throws away his crutch,
Before his legs be firm to bear his body;
Thus is the shepherd beaten from thy side,
And wolves are gnarling, who shall know thee first.
Ah, that my fear were false! ah, that it were!
For, good King *Henry*, thy decay I fear. [*Exit guarded.*]

SCENE III.

K. Henry. My Lords, what to your wisdom seemeth
best,
Do or undo as if ourself were here.

Q. Mar. What, will your Highness leave the Par-
liament?

K. Henry. Ay, *Margaret*, my heart is drown'd with
grief,
Whose flood begins to flow within my eyes,
My body round engirt with misery,
For what's more miserable than discontent?
Ah, uncle *Humphry*! in thy face I see
The map of honour, truth, and loyalty;
And yet, good *Humphry*, is the hour to come,
That e'er I prov'd thee false, or fear'd thy faith.
What low'ring star now envies thy estate?
That these great Lords, and *Margaret* our Queen,
Do seek subversion of thy harmless life,
That never didst them wrong, nor no man wrong.
And as the butcher takes away the calf,
And binds the wretch, and beats it when it strays.⁶

Bearing

⁶ *And as the Butcher takes
away the Calf,*

*And binds the wretch, and beats
it when it strays.]* But how
can it *stray* when it is *bound*?
The Poet certainly intended,
when it *strives*, i. e. when it

struggles to get loose. And so
he elsewhere employs this Word.

THIRLBY.

This emendation is admitted
by the succeeding editors, and I
had once put it in the text.

I am, however, inclined to
E 2 believe

Bearing it to the bloody slaughter-house ;
 Even so, remorseless, have they borne him hence.
 And as the dam runs lowing up and down,
 Looking the way her harmless young one went,
 And can do nought but wail her darling's loss ;
 Even so myself bewail good *Glo'ster's* case.
 With sad unhelpful tears, and with dimm'd eyes
 Look after him, and cannot do him good,
 So mighty are his vowed enemies.
 His fortunes I will weep, and 'twixt each groan
 Say, *Who's a traitor ? Glo'ster be is none.* [Exit.

Q. Mar. ⁷ Free Lords, cold snow melts with the
 sun's hot beams ;

Henry my Lord is cold in great affairs,
 Too full of foolish pity. *Glo'ster's* shew
 Beguiles him as the mournful crocodile
 With sorrow snares relenting passengers ;
 Or as the snake, roll'd in a flowry bank,
 With shining checker'd slough, doth sting a child
 That for the beauty thinks it excellent.
 Believe me, Lords, were none more wise than I,
 And yet herein I judge my own wit good,
 This *Glo'ster* should be quickly rid the world,
 To rid us from the fear we have of him.

Car. That he should die, is worthy policy,
 But yet we want a colour for his death ;
 'Tis meet, he be condemn'd by course of law.

Suf. But, in my mind, that were no policy ;
 The King will labour still to save his life,
 The commons haply rise to save his life,

believe that in this passage, as in many, there is a confusion of ideas, and that the poet had at once before him a butcher carrying a calf bound, and a butcher driving a calf to the slaughter, and beating him when he did not keep the path. Part of the line was suggested by one image and part by another, so that *strive* is the best word, but *stray* is the right.

⁷ Free Lords, &c.—] By this she means, (as may be seen by the sequel) you, who are not bound up to such precise regards of religion as is the King ; but are men of the World, and know how to live. WARBURTON.

And

: we have but trivial argument,

an mistrust, that shews him worthy death.

So that by this you would not have him die,

Ali, *York*, no man alive so fain as I.

* 'Tis *York*, that hath more reason for his death.

Lord Cardinal, and you, my Lord of *Suffolk*,

you think, and speak it from your souls;

or all one, an empty eagle were set

and the chicken from a hungry kite,

the Duke *Humphry* for the King's protector?

Mar. So the poor chicken should be sure of death.

Madam, 'tis true; and wer't not madness, then,

be the fox surveyor of the fold?

being accus'd a crafty murderer,

it should be but idly posted over,

his purpose is not executed.

Let him die, in that he is a fox,

are prov'd an enemy to the flock,

his chaps be stain'd with crimson blood,

Humphry prov'd by reasons to my Liege;

not stand on quilllets how to slay him,

beginns, by snares, by subtilty,

or waking, 'tis no matter how,

York that hath more reason

for his death.] Why

more reason than the

slaying *Humphry's* death,

very clear; he had only

meditation about the

of *France* in favour of

let him die, in that he

fox

are prov'd an enemy to

flock,

his chaps be stain'd with

crimson blood,

Humphry prov'd by reasons

to my Liege.] The meaning

taker is not hard to be

discovered, but his expression is very much perplexed. He means that the fox may be lawfully killed, as being known to be by nature an enemy to sheep, even before he has actually killed them; so *Humphry* may be properly destroyed, as being proved by arguments to be the king's enemy, before he has committed any actual crime.

Some may be tempted to read *treasons* for *reasons*, but the drift of the argument is to shew that there may be *reason* to kill him before any *treason* has broken out.

So he be dead ; for that is good deceit
Which mates him first, that first intends deceit.

Q. Mar. Thrice-noble *Suffolk*, 'tis resolutely spoke.

Suf. Not resolute except so much were done ;
For things are often spoke and seldom meant ;
But that my heart accordeth with my tongue,
Seeing the deed is meritorious,
And to preserve my Sovereign from his foe,
Say but the word, and ' I will be his priest.

Car. But I would have him dead, my Lord of
Suffolk,

Ere you can take due orders for a priest.
Say you consent, * and censure well the deed,
And I'll provide his executioner,
I tender to the safety of my Liege.

Suf. Here is my hand, the deed is worthy doing.

Q. Mar. And so say I.

York. And I. And now we three have spoke it,
† It skills not greatly who impugn's our doom.

S C E N E IV.

Enter a Post.

Post. Great Lords, from *Ireland* am I come again
To signify that Rebels there are up,
And put the *Englishmen* unto the sword.
Send succours, Lords, and stop the rage betime,
Before the wound do grow incurable ;
For being green, there is great hope of help.

Car. A breach, that craves a quick expedient stop
—What counsel give you in this weighty cause ?

York. That *Somerset* be sent a Regent thither ;
'Tis meet, that lucky ruler be employ'd ;
Witness the fortune he hath had in *France*. —

* *I will be his priest.*] I will
be the attendant on his last scene,
† *I will be the last man whom he*
will see.

* *And censure well the deed.*]

That is, approve the deed
judges the deed good.

† *It skills not.*] It is of no im-
portance.

Som. If *York*, with all his far-fetch'd policy,
Had been the Regent there instead of me,
He never would have staid in *France* so long.

York. No, not to lose it all, as thou hast done;
I rather would have lost my life betimes
Than bring a burden of dishonour home,
By staying there so long till all were lost.
Shew me one scar character'd on thy skin,
Men's flesh, preserv'd so whole, do seldom win.

Q. Mar. Nay then, this spark will prove a raging
fire,
If wind and fuel be brought to feed it with.
No more, good *York*; sweet *Somerſet*, be still.
Thy fortune, *York*, hadst thou been Regent there,
Might happily have prov'd far worse than his.

York. What, worse than nought? nay, then a shame
take all!

Som. And, in the number, thee that wishest shame!

Car. My Lord of *York*, try what your fortune is;
Th' uncivil Kerns of *Ireland* are in arms,
And temper clay with blood of *Englishmen*.
To *Ireland* will you lead a band of men,
Collected choicely from each country some,
And try your hap against the *Irishmen*?

York. I will, my Lord, so please his Majesty.

Suf. Why, our Authority is his consent,
And what we do establish, he confirms;
Then, noble *York*, take thou this task in hand.

York. I am content. Provide me soldiers, Lords,
Whilst I take order for mine own affairs.

Suf. A charge, Lord *York*, that I will see perform'd.
But now return we to the false Duke *Humphry*.

Car. No more of him; for I will deal with him,
That henceforth he shall trouble us no more,
And so break off. The day is almost spent.
Lord *Suffolk*, you and I must talk of that event.

York. My Lord of *Suffolk*, within fourteen days
At *Bristol* I expect my soldiers;

58 THE SECOND PART OF

Didst ever hear a man so penitent ?

Enter Suffolk.

First. Here comes my Lord.

Suf. Now, Sir, have you dispatch'd this thing ?

First. Ay, my good Lord, he's dead.

Suf. Why, that's well said. Go, get you to my house ;

I will reward you for this vent'rous deed.

The King and all the Peers are here at hand.——

Have you laid fair the bed ? are all things well,

According as I gave directions ?

First. Yes, my good Lord.

Suf. Away, be gone. [*Exeunt Murderers.*]

Enter King Henry, the Queen, Cardinal, Somerset, with Attendants.

K. Henry. Go, call our Uncle to our presence strait
Say, we intend to try his Grace to day,

If he be guilty, as 'tis published.

Suf. I'll call him presently, my noble Lord. [*Exit*

K. Henry. Lords, take your places. And, I pray
you all,

Proceed no straiter 'gainst our uncle *Gloster*,

Than from true evidence, of good esteem,

He be approv'd in practice culpable.

Q. Mar. God forbid, any malice should prevail,
That faultless may condemn a Nobleman !

Pray God, he may acquit him of suspicion !

K. Henry. I thank thee, Well, these words con-
tent me much.

* In former Editions :

*I thank thee, Nell, these words
content me much.*]

This is
K. Henry's Reply to his Wife
Margaret. There can be no
Reason why he should forget his
own Wife's Name, and call her

Nell instead of *Margaret.* As to
Change of a single Letter sets
right, I am willing to suppose
it came from his Pen that y^e

*I thank thee : Well, these words
content me much.*

THEOBAL

Ent

Enter Suffolk.

How now ? why look'st thou so pale ? why tremblest thou ?

Where is our Uncle ? what is the matter, *Suffolk* ?

Suf. Dead in his bed, my Lord ; *Glo'ster* is dead.

Q. Mar. Marry, God forefend !

Car. God's secret judgment. I did dream to night,
The Duke was dumb, and could not speak a word.

[*King swoons,*

Q. Mar. How fares my Lord ? help, Lords, the
King is dead.

Som. Rear up his body, wring him by the nose.

Q. Mar. Run, go, help, help. Oh, *Henry*, open
thine eyes.

Suf. He doth revive again. Madam, be patient.

K. Henry. O heav'nly God !

Q. Mar. How fares my gracious Lord ?

Suf. Comfort, my Sovereign ; gracious *Henry*, com-
fort.

K. Henry. What, doth my Lord of *Suffolk* com-
fort me ?

Came he ? right now to sing a raven's note,
Whose dismal tune bereft my vital pow'rs ;
And thinks he, that the chirping of a wren,
By crying comfort from a hollow breast,
Can chase away the first conceived sound ?

Hide not thy poison with such sugar'd words ;

Lay not thy hands on me ; forbear, I say ;

Their touch affrights me as a serpent's sting.

Thou baleful messenger, out of my sight !

Upon thy eye-balls murd'rous tyranny

Sits in grim majesty to fright the world.

Look not upon me, for thine eyes are wounding !—

Yet do not go away—come, basilisk,

[*Right now.*] Just now ; even now.

And

60 THE SECOND PART OF

And kill the innocent gazer with thy sight ;
For in the shade of death I shall find joy,
In life but double death now *Glo'ster's* dead.

Q. Mar. Why do you rate my Lord of *Suffolk* thus?
Although the Duke was enemy to him,
Yet he, most Christian-like, laments his death.
And for myself, foe as he was to me,
Might liquid tears, or heart-offending groans,
Or blood-consuming sighs recall his life ;
I would be blind with weeping, sick with groans,
Look pale as primrose with blood-drinking sighs,
And all to have the noble Duke alive.
What know I, how the world may deem of me ?
For, it is known, we were but hollow friends ;
It may be judg'd, I made the Duke away ;
So shall my name with slander's tongue be wounded,
And Princes' Courts be fill'd with my reproach.
This get I by his death. Ah, me unhappy !
To be a Queen, and crown'd with infamy.

K. Henry. Ah, woe is me for *Glo'ster*, wretched man !

Q. Mar. * Be woe for me, more wretched than he is.
What, dost thou turn away and hide thy face ?
I am no loathsome leper ; look on me.
What, art thou like the adder waxen deaf ?
Be pois'nous too, and kill thy forlorn Queen.
Is all thy comfort shut in *Glo'ster's* tomb ?
Why, then, dame *Margaret* was ne'er thy joy.
Erect his statue, and do worship to it,
And make my image but an ale-house sign.
Was I for this nigh wreckt upon the sea,
And twice by adverse winds from *England's* bank
Drove back again unto my native clime ?
What boaded this ? but well-fore-warning winds
Did seem to say, seek not a scorpion's nest,

* *Be woe for me.*] That is, let not woe be to thee for *Gloucester*, but for me.

Nor set no footing on this unkind shore.
 What did I then? but curst the gentle gusts,
 And he that loos'd them from their brazen caves,
 And bid them blow towards *England's* blessed shore,
 Or turn our stern upon a dreadful rock.
 Yet *Æolus* would not be a murderer;
 But left that hateful office unto thee.
 The pretty vaulting sea refus'd to drown me,
 Knowing, that thou wouldst have me drown'd on shore
 With tears as salt as sea, through thy unkindness.
 'The splitting rocks cow'r'd in the sinking sands,
 And would not dash me with their ragged sides;
 Because thy flinty heart, more hard than they,
 Might in thy Palace perish *Margaret*.
 As far as I could ken the chalky cliffs,
 When from thy shore the tempest beat us back,
 I stood upon the hatches in the storm;
 And when the dusky sky began to rob
 My earnest-gaping sight of thy Land's view,
 I took a costly jewel from my neck,
 At heart it was, bound in with diamonds,
 And threw it tow'rds thy Land; the sea receiv'd it,
 And so, I wish'd, thy body might my heart.
 And ev'n with this I lost fair *England's* view,
 And bid mine eyes be packing with my heart,
 And call'd them blind and dusky spectacles,

The splitting rocks cow'r'd in the sinking sands.
And would not dash me with their ragged sides.] *Sinking sands* and *splitting rocks* are the two destroyers of ships, but they are not otherwise allied to one another, and set their mischief by very different powers. I believe here is a transposition, and should read,
The sinking sands, the splitting rocks cow'r'd in.

Our poet mentions them together, as in *Orbello*,
The gutter'd rocks and congregated sands.
 But finding no commodious allusion for the sands, he let that idea pass without any correspondent, and proceeds to the rocks.
The splitting rocks cow'r'd in, And would not dash me with their ragged sides, Because thy flinty heart——

62 THE SECOND PART OF

For losing ken of *Albion's* wished Coast.
How often have I tempted *Suffolk's* tongue,
The agent of thy foul inconstancy,
° To sit and witch me, as *Ascanius* did,
When he to madding *Dido* would unfold
His father's acts, commenc'd in burning *Troy*?
Am I not witcht like her? or thou not false like him
Ah me, I can no more: die, *Margaret*!
For *Henry* weeps, that thou dost live so long.

Noise within. Enter Warwick, Salisbury, and a
Commons.

War. It is reported, mighty Sovereign,
That good Duke *Humbry* traiterously is murder'd
By *Suffolk*, and the Cardinal *Beauford's* means,
The Commons, like an angry hive of bees
That want their leader, scatter up and down;
And care not whom they sting in their revenge.
Myself have calm'd their spleenful mutiny,
Until they hear the order of his death.

K. Henry. That he is dead, good *Warwick*, 'tis too true
But how he died, God knows, * not *Henry*.
Enter his chamber, view his breathless corps,
And comment then upon his sudden death.

° To sit and watch me, as *Ascanius* did,
When he to madding *Dido* would unfold
His Father's Acts, commenc'd in
burning *Troy*;] The Poet
here is unquestionably alluding
to *Virgil*. (*Æneid*. I.) but he
strangely blends Fact with Fic-
tion. In the first Place, it was
Cupid, in the Semblance of *As-
canius*, who sat in *Dido's* Lap,
and was fondled by her. but
then it was not *Cupid*, who re-
lated to her the Process of *Troy's*
destruction, but it was *Æneas*
himself who related this His-
tory. Again, how did the
poor *Ascanius* sit and
her? *Cupid* was ordered,
Dido mistakenly caressed
to bewitch and infect her
Love. To this Circum-
stance the Poet certainly alludes;
unless he had wrote, as I
restored to the Text;
To sit and witch me,
Why should the Queen im-
mediately draw this Inference.
Am I not witch'd like her
THEOB
* Not *Henry*.] The poet
monly uses *Henry* as a wa-
three syllables.

KING HENRY VI.

63

War. That I shall do, my Liege.—Stay, *Salisbury*,
With the rude multitude, till I return.

[*Warwick goes in.*]

K. Henry. O thou, that judgest all things, stay my
thoughts,

My thoughts, that labour to persuade my soul,
Some violent hands were laid on *Humphry's* life.
If my suspect be false, forgive me, God!
For judgment only doth belong to thee.
Fain would I go to chafe his paly lips
With twenty thousand kisses, and to drain
Upon his face an ocean of salt tears;
To tell my love unto his dumb deaf trunk,
And with my fingers feel his hand unfeeling.
But all in vain are these mean obsequies.

[*Bed with Glo'ster's body put forth.*]

And to survey his dead and earthly image,
What were it, but to make my sorrow greater?

War. Come hither, gracious Sovereign, view this
body.

K. Henry. That is to see how deep my grave is made,
For, with his soul fled all my worldly solace;
'For seeing him, I see my life in death.

War. As surely as my soul intends to live
With that dread King, that took our state upon him,
To free us from his father's wrathful curse,
I do believe, that violent hands were laid
Upon the life of this thrice-famed Duke.

Suf. A dreadful oath, sworn with a solemn tongue!
What instance gives Lord *Warwick* for his vow?

'For seeing him, I see my life
in death.] Though, by a
violent operation, some sense
may be extracted from this read-
ing, yet I think it will be better
to change it thus;

*For seeing him, I see my death
in life.*

That is, seeing him I live to see
my own destruction. Thus it
will aptly correspond with the
first line.

*Come hither, gracious So-
vereign, view this body.*

K. Henry. That is to see how
deep my grave is made.

War.

64 THE SECOND PART OF

War. See, how the blood is settled in his face.
 * Oft have I seen a timely-parted ghost;
 Of ashy semblance, meager, pale, and bloodless;
 Being all descended to the lab'ring heart,
 Who, in the conflict that it holds with death,
 Attracts the same for aidance 'gainst the enemy;
 Which with the heart there cools, and ne'er returneth
 To blush and beautify the cheek again.
 But see, his face is black and full of blood;
 His eye-balls further out, than when he liv'd;
 Staring full-ghastly, like a strangled man;
 His hair up-rear'd, his nostrils stretch'd with struggling;
 His hands abroad display'd, as one that graspt
 And tugg'd for life, and was by strength subdu'd.
 Look on the sheets; his hair, you see, is sticking;
 His well-proportion'd beard made rough and rugged,
 Like to the summer's corn by tempest lodg'd.
 It cannot be, but he was murder'd here;
 The least of all these signs were probable.

Suf. Why, *Warwick*, who should do the Duke to death?

Myself and *Beauford* had him in protection;
 And we, I hope, Sirs, are no murderers.

War. But both of you have vow'd Duke *Humphrey's* death,
 And you, forsooth, had the good Duke to keep.

* *Oft have I seen a timely-parted ghost,*
Of ashy semblance, meager, pale,
and bloodless.] All that is true of the body of a dead man is here said by *Warwick* of the soul. I would read,

Oft have I seen a timely-parted
 coarse,

But of two common words how or why was one changed for the other? I believe the transcriber thought that the epithet, *timely-*

parted could not be used of the body, but that, as in *Hamlet* there is mention of *peace-parted souls*, so here *timely-parted* must have the same substantive. He removed one imaginary difficulty and made many real. If the soul is parted from the body, the body is likewise parted from the soul.

I cannot but stop a moment to observe that this horrible description is scarcely the work of any pen but *Shakespeare's*.

'Tis like, you would not feast him like a friend;
And 'tis well seen, he found an enemy.

Q. Mar. Then you, belike, suspect these Noblemen,
As guilty of Duke *Humphry's* timeless death.

War. Who finds the heifer dead and bleeding fresh,
And sees fast by a butcher with an ax,
But will suspect, 'twas he that made the slaughter?
Who finds the partridge in the puttock's nest,
But may imagine how the bird was dead,
Although the kite soar with unbloodied beak?
Ev'n so suspicious is this tragedy.

Q. Mar. Are you the butcher, *Suffolk*? where's
your knife?

Is *Beauford* term'd a kite? where are his talons?

Suf. I wear no knife to slaughter sleeping men;
But here's a 'vengeful sword, rusted with ease,
That shall be scoured in his ranc'rous heart
That slanders me with murder's crimson badge.
Say, if thou dar'st, proud Lord of *Warwickshire*,
That I am faulty in Duke *Humphry's* death.

War. What dares not *Warwick*, if false *Suffolk* dare
him?

Q. Mar. He dares not calm his contumelious spirit,
Nor cease to be an arrogant controller,
Though *Suffolk* dare him twenty thousand times.

War. Madam, be still. With rev'rence may I say,
For ev'ry word, you speak in his behalf,
Is slander to your royal Dignity.

Suf. Blunt-witted Lord, ignoble in demeanour,
If ever lady wrong'd her Lord so much,
Thy mother took into her blameful bed
Some stern untutor'd churl, and noble stock
Was graft with crab-tree slip, whose fruit thou art;
And never of the *Nevil's* noble Race.

War. But that the guilt of murder buckler's thee,
And I should rob the death's man of his fee,
Quitting thee thereby of ten thousand shames,
And that my Sovereign's presence makes me mild,

66 THE SECOND PART OF

I would, false murd'rous Coward, on thy knee.
Make thee beg pardon for thy passed speech,
And say, it was thy mother that thou meant'st,
That thou thyself wast born in bastardy;
And, after all this fearful homage done,
Give thee thy hire, and send thy soul to hell,
Pernicious blood-sucker of sleeping men!

Suf. Thou shalt be waking, while I shed thy blood,
If from this presence thou dar'st go with me.

War. Away ev'n now, or I will drag thee hence;
Unworthy though thou art, I'll cope with thee;
And do some service to Duke *Humphry's* ghost.

[*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E VII.

K. Henry. What stronger breast-plate than a heart
untainted?

Thrice is he arm'd, that hath his quarrel just;
And he but naked, though lock'd up in steel,
Whose conscience with injustice is corrupted.

[*A noise within.*]

Q. Mar. What noise is this?

Enter Suffolk and Warwick, with their weapons drawn.

K. Henry. Why, how now, Lords? your wrathful
weapons drawn

Here in our presence! dare you be so bold?

Why, what tumultuous clamour have we here?

Suf. The trait'rous *Warwick* with the men of *Bury*
Set all upon me, mighty Sovereign.

Noise of a crowd within. Enter Salisbury.

Sal. Sirs, stand apart; the King shall know your
mind.

—Dread Lord, the Commons send you word by me,
Unleis Lord *Suffolk* strait be done to death,

C

KING HENRY VI.

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unish'd fair *England's* territories,
 will by violence tear him from your Palace,
 torture him with grievous lingring death.
 say, by him the good Duke *Humphry* died;
 say, in him they fear your Highness' death;
 mere instinct of love and loyalty,
 from a stubborn opposite intent,
 ing thought to contradict your liking,
 s them thus forward in his Banishment.
 say, in care of your most royal person,
 if your Highness should intend to sleep,
 charge that no man should disturb your rest,
 in of your dislike, or pain of death;
 notwithstanding such a strait edict,
 there a serpent seen with forked tongue,
 sily glided tow'rds your Majesty,
 re but necessary you were wak'd;
 being suffer'd in that harmful slumber,
 mortal worm might make the sleep eternal.
 therefore do they cry, though you forbid,
 they will guard you whether you will or no
 such fell serpents as false *Suffolk* is,
 whose invenomed and fatal sting
 loving Uncle, twenty times his worth,
 say, is shamefully bereft of life.
mons within. An answer from the King, my
 Lord of *Salisbury*.
 'Tis like, the Commons, rude unpolish'd hinds,
 d send such message to their Sovereign;
 you, my Lord, were glad to be employ'd,
 bew how queint an orator you are.
 all the honour *Salisbury* hath won,
 hat he was the Lord Ambassador
 from ' a sort of tinkers to the King.
ibin. An answer from the King, or we will all
 break in.

¹ *A sort, is a company.*

K. Henry. Go, *Salisbury*, and tell them all from me
I thank them for their tender loving care;
And had I not been cited so by them,
Yet did I purpose as they do entreat;
For, sure, my thoughts do hourly prophesy
Mischance unto my State by *Suffolk's* means.
And therefore by his Majesty I swear,
Whose far unworthy Deputy I am,
He shall not breathe infection in this air
But three days longer, on the pain of death.

Q. Mar. Oh *Henry* let me plead for gentle *Suffolk*!

K. Henry. Ungentle Queen, to call him gentle *Suffolk*!
No more, I say. If thou dost plead for him,
Thou wilt but add increase unto my wrath.
Had I but said, I would have kept my word;
But, when I swear, it is irrevocable.
—If after three days space thou here be'st found,
On any ground that I am ruler of,
The world shall not be ransom for thy life.
—Come *Warwick*; come, good *Warwick*; go with me
I have great matters to impart to thee.

[*Exeunt K. Henry, Warwick, &c.*]

S C E N E VIII.

Manent Suffolk, and Queen.

Q. Mar. Mischance and Sorrow go along with you
Heart's Discontent and four Affliction
Be play-fellows to keep you company!
There's two of you, the devil make a third,
And threefold vengeance tend upon your steps!

Suf. Cease, gentle Queen, these execrations;
And let thy *Suffolk* take his heavy leave.

Q. Mar. Fy, coward woman, and soft-hearted
wretch,
Hast thou not spirit to curse thine enemy?

Suf. A plague upon them! Wherefore should I curse
them?

Woul

I curses kill, as doth the mandrake's groan,
 Invent as bitter searching terms,
 As harsh, and horrible to hear,
 'd strongly through my fixed teeth,
 All as many signs of deadly hate,
 -fac'd envy in her loathsome cave.
 I should stumble in mine earnest words,
 My eyes should sparkle like the beaten flint,
 My ear be fixt on end like one distract:
 My joint should seem to curse and ban.
 When now my burden'd heart would break,
 I not curse them. Poison be their drink!
 More bitter than gall, the daintiest meat they taste!
 Sweetest shade a grove of cypress trees!
 Chiefest prospect murd'ring basilisks!
 Softest touch, as smart as lizards' stings!
 More sick-frightful as the serpent's hiss!
 Screech-owls make the concert full!
 Foul terrors in dark seated hell——
Mar. Enough, sweet *Suffolk*, thou torment'st
 thyself;
 These dread curses, like the sun 'gainst glass,
 As an over-charged gun, recoil
 On the force of them upon thyself.
 * You bad me ban, and will you bid me leave?
 By the ground that I am banish'd from,
 Would I curse away a winter's night,

'd curses kill, as doth the mandrake's groan.] The fa-
 counts of the plant cal-
 l'd *mandrake* give it an infe-
 rre of animal life, and
 at when it is torn from
 the ground, it groans, and that
 being certainly fatal
 to the creature, is offering such un-
 violence, the practice
 who gather *mandrakes*
 one end of a string to
 pull it out, and the other to a dog,

upon whom the fatal groan dis-
 charges its malignity.

* *You bad me ban, and will
 you bid me leave?* This in-
 consistency is very common in
 real life. Those who are vexed
 to impatience are angry to see
 others less disturbed than them-
 selves, but when others begin to
 rave, they immediately see in
 them, what they could not find
 in themselves, the deformity and
 folly of useless rage.

Though standing naked on a mountain top
Where biting Cold would never let grafs grow,
And think it but a minute spent in sport,

Q. Mar. Oh, let me entreat thee cease, Give me
thy hand,

That I may dew it with my mournful tears;
Nor let the rain of heaven wet this place,
To wash away my woful monuments.
Oh, could this kiss be printed in thy hand,

[Kissing his hand]

* That thou might'st think upon these by the seal,
Through whom a thousand sighs are breath'd for thee
—So—Get thee gone, that I may know my grief;
'Tis but surmis'd, whilst thou art standing by,
As one that surfeits, thinking on a Want,
—I will repeal thee, or, be well assur'd,
Adventure to be banished myself;
And banished I am, if but from thee,
—Go, speak not to me; even now be gone—
Oh, go not yet—Ev'n thus two friends condemn'd
Embrace and kiss, and take ten thousand leaves,
Loather a hundred times to part than die.
—Yet now farewell, and farewell life with thee!

Suf. Thus is poor *Suffolk* ten times banished,
Once by the King and three times thrice by thee,
'Tis not the Land I care for, wert thou hence;
A wilderness is populous enough,
So *Suffolk* had thy heav'nly company.
For where thou art, there is the world itself,
With ev'ry sev'ral pleasure in the world,
And where thou art not, Desolation.
I can no more—Live thou to joy thy life;
Myself no joy in aught but that thou liv'st.

* *That thou might'st think upon
these by the seal,
Through which a thousand sighs,
&c.]* That by the impression of
my kiss for ever remaining on

thy hand thou mightest think of
those lips through which a thou-
sand sighs will be breathed for
thee.

SCENE

KING HENRY VI.

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SCENE IX.

Enter Vaux.

Q. Mar. Whither goes *Vaux* so fast? what news, I pr'ythee?

Vaux. To signify unto his Majesty,
That Cardinal *Beauford* is at point of death,
For suddenly a grievous sickness took him,
That makes him gasp, and stare, and catch the air,
Blaspheming God, and cursing men on earth,
Sometimes he talks, as if Duke *Hampbry's* ghost
Were by his side; sometimes, he calls the King,
And whispers to his pillow, as to him,
The secrets of his over-charged soul;
And I am sent to tell his Majesty,
That even now he cries aloud for him.

Q. Mar. Go tell this heavy message to the King.

[*Exit Vaux.*]

Why me! what is this world? what news are these?
What wherefore grieve I at an hour's poor loss,
*
Submitting *Suffolk's* exile, my soul's treasure?
Thy only, *Suffolk*, mourn I not for thee,
And with the southern clouds contend in tears?
Theirs for the earth's increase; mine for my sorrows.
Now, get thee hence.—The King, thou know'st, is
coming;

thou be found by me, thou art but dead.

Suf. If I depart from thee, I cannot live;
And in thy sight to die, what were it else,
But like a pleasant slumber in thy lap?
Here could I breathe my soul into the air,
As mild and gentle as the cradle babe
Lying with mother's dug between its lips.
Here, from thy sight, I should be raging mad,

* — at an hour's poor loss.] She
means, I believe, at a loss which
by her spent in contrivance and
liberation will enable her to

supply. Or perhaps she may
call the sickness of the cardinal
the loss of an hour, as it may
put some stop to her schemes.

THE SECOND PART OF

And cry out for thee to close up mine eyes,
 To have thee with thy lips to stop my mouth;
 So shouldst thou either turn my flying soul,
 Or I should breathe it so into thy body,
 And then it liv'd in sweet *Elysium*.
 To die by thee were but to die in jest,
 From thee to die were torture more than death.
 —Oh! let me stay, befall what may befall.

Q. Mar. Away. Though parting be a fretful
 rofive,

It is applied to a deathful wound.
 To *France*, sweet *Suffolk*. Let me hear from thee
 For wheresoe'er thou art in this world's globe,
 * I'll have an *Iris* that shall find thee out.

Suf. I go.

Q. Mar. And take my heart with thee.

Suf. A jewel lock'd into the woful'st casket
 That ever did contain a thing of worth.
 Even as a splitted bark, so sunder we;
 This way fall I to death.

Q. Mar. This way for me. [Exit sever.

S C E N E X.

The Cardinal's Bedchamber.

*Enter King Henry, Salisbury, and Warwick, to
 Cardinal in Bed.*

K. Henry. **H**OW fares my Lord? speak, *Beaufort*
 to thy Sovereign.

Car. If thou beest Death, I'll give thee *Engla*
 treasure,

Enough to purchase such another Island,
 So thou wilt let me live, and feel no pain.

K. Henry. Ah, what a sign it is of evil life,
 Where death's approach is seen so terrible!

War. *Beauford*, it is thy Sovereign speaks to t

* I'll have an *Iris*] *Iris* was the messenger of *Juno*.

Car. Bring me unto my Trial when you will.

Dy'd he not in his bed? where should he die?

Can I make men live whether they will or no?

—Oh, torture me no more, I will confess

—Alive again? then shew me where he is,

I'll give a thousand pound to look upon him.

—He hath no eyes, the dust hath blinded them.

—Comb down his hair; look! look! it stands upright,

Like lime twigs set to catch my winged soul.

—Give me some drink, and bid th' apothecary

Bring the strong poison that I bought of him.

K. Henry. O thou eternal Mover of the heav'ns,
Look with a gentle eye upon this wretch;
Oh, beat away the busy, meddling fiend,
That lays strong siege unto this wretch's soul,
And from his bosom purge this black despair.

War. See, how the pangs of death do make him grin!

Sal. Disturb him not; let him pass peaceably.

K. Henry. Peace to his soul, if God's good pleasure be!
—Lord Cardinal, if thou think'st on heaven's bliss,
Hold up thy hand, make signal of thy hope.

—He dies, and makes no sign!—O God, forgive him.

War. So bad a death argues a monstrous life.

K. Henry. ³ Forbear to judge, for we are sinners all.
Close up his eyes, and draw the curtain close,
And let us all to meditation. [Exeunt. *

³ Forbear to judge, &c. —] *Pecantes culpare carere, nam labimur omnes, aut sumus, aut fuimus, vel possumus esse quod hic est.*

* This is one of the scenes which have been applauded by the wits, and which will con-

tinue to be admired when prejudice shall cease, and bigotry give way to impartial examination. These are beauties that rise out of nature and of truth; the superficial reader cannot miss them, the profound can image nothing beyond them.

THE SECOND PART OF ACT IV. SCENE I.

The Coast of Kent.

Alarm. Fight at sea. Ordnance goes off. Enter Captain Whitmore, and other Pirates, with Suffolk and other Prisoners.

CAPTAIN.

THE gaudy, blabbing, and remorseful day⁴
Is crept into the bosom of the sea;
And now loud howling wolves arouse the jades,⁵
That drag the tragick melancholy night,
Who with their drowsy, slow, and flagging wings
Clip dead men's graves; and from their misty jaws
Breathe foul contagious darknefs in the air.
Therefore bring forth the soldiers of our prize;
For whilst our Pinnace anchors in the Downs,
Here shall they make their ransom on the sand;
Or with their blood stain this discolour'd shore.
—Master, this prisoner freely give I thee;
And thou, that art his mate, make boot of this;
The other, *Walter Whitmore*, is thy share.

[*Pointing to Suffolk*]

1 *Gent.* What is my ransom, master, let me know

Maft. A thousand crowns, or else lay down your head

Mate. And so much shall you give, or off goes your

Whit. What, think you much to pay two thousand
crowns,

⁴ *The gaudy, blabbing,—day]*
The epithet *blabbing* applied to
the day by a man about to com-
mit murder, is exquisitely beau-
tiful. Guilt is afraid of light,
considers darknefs as a natural
shelter, and makes night the
confidante of those actions which
cannot be trusted to the tell-tale
day.

⁵ ————— the jades

That drag the tragick melancholy
night,

Who with their drowsy, slow
and flagging wings,

Clip dead men's graves;—
The wings of the jades that drag
night appears an unnatural image
till it is remembered that a
chariot of the night is supposed
by *Shakespeare*, to be drawn by
dragons.

And bear the name and port of gentlemen?

—Cut both the villains' throats,—for die you shall,
Nor can those lives, which we have lost in fight,
Be counter-pois'd with such a petty sum.

1 *Gent.* I'll give it, Sir, and therefore spare my life,

2. *Gent.* And so will I, and write home for it straight.

Whit. I lost mine eye in laying the prize aboard,
And therefore, to revenge it, shalt thou die;

[To Suffolk.

And so should these, if I might have my will.

Cap. Be not so rash, take ransom, let him live.

Suf. 6 Look on my *George*, I am a Gentleman;
Rate me at what thou wilt, thou shalt be paid——

Whit. And so am I; my name is *Walter Whitmore*.
How now? why start'st thou? what, doth death af-
fright?

Suf. Thy name affrights me, in whose sound is death,
A cunning man did calculate my birth,
And told me, that by *Water* I should die,
Yet let not this make thee be bloody minded,
Thy name is *Gualtier*, being rightly sounded.

Whit. *Gualtier* or *Walter*, which it is I care not;
Ne'er yet did base Dishonour blur our name,
But with our sword, we wip'd away the blot.
Therefore, when merchant-like I sell revenge,
Broke be my sword, my arms torn and defac'd,
And I proclaim'd a Coward through the world!

Suf. Stay, *Whitmore*, for thy prisoner is a Prince;
The Duke of *Suffolk*, *William de la Pole*.

Whit. The Duke of *Suffolk* muffled up in rags?

Suf. Ay, but these rags are no part of the Duke.
7 *Jove* sometimes went disguis'd, and why not I?

6 *Look on my George.*] In the first Edition it is *my ring*. WARB.

7 *Jove sometimes went disguis'd, &c.*] This verse is omitted in all but the first old Edition, without which what

follows is not sense. The next line also,

Obscure and lowly swain, King Henry's blood,
was falsely put in the captain's mouth. POPE.

Cap.

Cap. But *Jove* was never slain, as thou shalt be.

Suf. Obscure and lowly swain, King *Henry's* blood—
The honourable blood of *Lancaster*,

Must not be shed by such a jaded groom.

Hast thou not kiss'd thy hand, and held my stirrop?

Bare-headed, plodded by my foot-cloth mule,

And thought thee happy when I shook my head?

How often hast thou waited at my cup,

Fed from my trencher, kneel'd down at the board,

When I have feasted with Queen *Margaret*?

Remember it, and let it make thee crest-fal'n;

Ay, and allay this thy abortive pride.*

How in our voiding lobby hast thou stood,

And duly waited for my coming forth?

This hand of mine hath writ in thy behalf,

And therefore shall it charm thy riotous tongue.

Whit. Speak, Captain, shall I stab the forlorn swain?

Cap. First let my words stab him, as he hath me.

Suf. Base slave, thy words are blunt; and so art thou.

Cap. Convey him hence, and on our long-boat's side
Strike off his head.

Suf. Thou dar'st not for thy own.

Cap. *Poole*? Sir *Poole*? Lord? *

Ay, kennel—puddle—sink, whose filth and dirt
Troubles the silver Spring where *England* drinks;

Now will I dam up this thy yawning mouth,

For swallowing up the treasure of the Realm;

Thy lips, that kiss'd the Queen, shall sweep the ground,

And thou, that sinil'dst at good Duke *Humpbry's* death,

Against the senseless winds shall grin in vain,

Who in contempt shall hiss at thee again.

And wedded be thou to the hags of hell,

* ———*abortive pride*.] Pride that has had birth too soon, pride issuing before its time.

* *Poole*? Sir *Poole*? Lord?] The dissimilarity of this broken line makes it almost certain that

we should read with a kind of ludicrous climax,

Poole? Sir *Poole*? Lord *Poole*?
He then plays upon the name *Poole*, kennel, puddle.

For daring to affie a mighty Lord
 Unto the daughter of a worthless King,
 Having nor Subject, Wealth, nor diadem !
 By devilish policy art thou grown great,
 And, like ambitious *Sylla*, over-gorg'd
 With gobbets of thy mother's bleeding heart.
 By thee *Anjou* and *Maine* were sold to *France*;
 The false revolting *Normans*, thorough thee,
 Disdain to call us Lord; and *Picardie*
 Hath slain their Governors, surpriz'd our Forts,
 And sent the ragged soldiers wounded home.
 The princely *Warwick*, and the *Nevills* all,
 Whose dreadful swords were never drawn in vain,
 As hating thee, are rising up in arms.
 And now the House of *York*, thrust from the Crown
 By shameful murder of a guiltless King,
 And lofty proud inroaching tyranny,
 Burns with revenging fire; whose hopeful Colours
 Advance a half-fac'd Sun striving to shine;
 Under the which is writ, *Invitis auxibus*.
 The Commons here in *Kent* are up in arms:
 And to conclude, Reproach and Beggary
 Is crept into the Palace of our King,
 And all by thee.—Away! convey him hence.—

Suf. O, that I were a God, to shoot forth thunder
 Upon these paultry, servile, abject drudges!
 Small things make base men proud. 'Tis his villain here,
 Being captain of a pinnace, threatens more
 Than *Bargulus* the strong *Illyrian* Pirate.⁹
 Drones suck not eagles' blood, but rob bee-hives.
 It is impossible that I should die

⁹ Than *Bargulus* the strong *Illyrian* Pirate.] Mr. *Theobald* says, This might I have not been able to trace, or discover from what LEGEND our author derived his acquaintance with him. And yet he is to be met with in

Tully's Offices; and the Legend is the famous *Theopompus's* history. *Bargulus Illyrius latro, de quo est apud Theopompum, magnas opes habuit.* lib. 2. cap. 11.

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By such a lowly vassal as thyself.

Thy words move rage, and not remorse, in me !

I go of message from the Queen to *France* ;

I charge thee waft me safely cross the channel.

Cap. Walter——

Whit. Come, *Suffolk*, I must waft thee to thy death——

Suf. *Gelidus timor occupat artus* : it's thee I fear.

Whit. Thou shalt have cause to fear, before I leave——
thee.

What, are ye daunted now ? now will ye stoop ?

¹ *Gent.* My gracious Lord, intreat him ; speak him——
fair.

Suf. *Suffolk's* imperial tongue is stern and rough,
Us'd to command, untaught to plead for favour.

Far be it, we should honour such as these

With humble suit ; no, rather let my head

Stoop to the block, than these knees bow to any,

Save to the God of heav'n, and to my King ;

And sooner dance upon a bloody pole,

Than stand uncover'd to the vulgar groom.

True Nobility is exempt from fear :

More can I bear, than you dare execute.

Cap. Hale him away, and let him talk no more ;
Come, soldiers, shew what cruelty ye can.

Suf. That this my death may never be forgot !——
Great men oft die by vile *Bezonians*.

A *Roman* sworder and *Banditto* slave

Murder'd sweet *Tully* ; *Brutus'* bastard hand

Stabb'd *Julius Caesar* ; savage Islanders

¹ *Pompey* the Great : And *Suffolk* dies by Pirates.

[*Exit Walter Whitmore with Suffolk.*]

Cap. And as for these, whose ransom we have set,
It is our pleasure one of them depart ;

Therefore come you with us, and let him go.

[*Exit Captain and the rest.*]

¹ The poet seems to have confounded the story of *Pompey* with some other.

Manet the first Gent. Enter Whitmore with the body.

Whit. There let his head and liveless body lie,
Until the Queen his mistress bury it. [*Exit Whit.*

1 Gent. O barbarous and bloody spectacle!
His body will I bear unto the King;
If he revenge it not, yet will his friends;
So will the Queen, that living held him dear. [*Exit.*

S C E N E II.

Changes to Southwark.

Enter Bevis and John Holland.

Bevis. COME, and get thee a sword though made
of a lath; they have been up these two
days.

Hol. They have the more need to sleep now then.

Bevis. I tell thee, *Jack Cade* the clothier means to
dress the commonwealth, and turn it, and set a new
nap upon it.

Hol. So he had need, for 'tis thread-bare. Well, I
say, it was never merry world in *England* since Gentle-
men came up.

Bevis. O miserable age! virtue is not regarded in
handy-crafts-men.

Hol. The Nobility think scorn to go in leather aprons.

Bevis. Nay more, the King's Council are no good
workmen.

Hol. True, and yet it is said, *Labour in thy vocation*;
which is as much as to say, let the magistrates be la-
bouring men; and therefore should we be magistrates.

Bevis. Thou hast hit it; for there's no better sign
of a brave mind than a hard hand.

Hol. I see them, I see them. There's *Beff's* son, the
Tanner of *Wingham*.

Bevis.

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Bevis. He shall have the skins of our enemies & make dog's leather of.

Hol. And *Dick* the butcher: —

Bevis. Then is sin struck down like an ox, and *iniquity's* throat cut like a calf.

Hol. And *Smith* the weaver: —

Bevis. Argo, their thread of life is spun.

Hol. Come, come, let's fall in with them.

Drum. Enter *Cade*, *Dick the butcher*, *Smith the weaver*, and a sawyer, with infinite numbers.

Cade. We *John Cade*, so term'd of our supposed father —

Dick. Or rather of stealing a cade of herrings. *

Cade. For our enemies shall fall before us, * inspired with the spirit of putting down Kings and Princes. — Command silence.

Dick. Silence.

Cade. My father was a *Mortimer* —

Dick. He was an honest man and a good bricklayer.

Cade. My mother a *Plantagenet* —

Dick. I knew her well, she was a midwife.

Cade. My wife descended of the *Lacies* —

Dick. She was indeed a pedlar's daughter, and sold many laces.

Weav. But, now of late, not able to travel with her furr'd pack, she washes bucks here at home.

Cade. Therefore am I of an honourable house.

Dick. Ay, by my faith, the field is honourable; and there was he born, under a hedge; for his father had never a house but the cage.

Cade. Valiant I am.

Weav. A' must needs, for beggary is valiant.

* — a cade of herrings.] name *Cade*, from *cade*, Lat. *cadere*. That is, a barrel of herrings. I fall. He has too much learning to suppose the word *keg*, which is now used, is *cade* corrupted. for his character.

* — our enemies shall fall before us,] ³ furred pack,] A wallet or knapsack of skin with the hair outward.

Cade.

Cade. I am able to endure much.

Dick. No question of that; for I have seen him
slept three market days together.

Cade. I fear neither sword nor fire.

Weav. He need not fear the sword, for his coat is
proof.

Dick. But, methinks he should stand in fear of fire,
being burnt i'th' hand for stealing of sheep.

Cade. Be brave then, for your captain is brave, and
his reformation. There shall be in *England* seven
half-penny loaves sold for a penny; the three-hoop'd
cask shall have ten hoops, and I will make it felony to
drink small beer. All the realm shall be in common,
and in *Cheapside* shall my palfrey go to grass; and when
I am King, as King I will be——

All. God save your Majesty!

Cade. I thank you, good people. There shall be no
money; all shall eat and drink upon my score; and I
will apparel them all in one livery, that they may agree
like brothers, and worship me their Lord.

Dick. The first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers.

Cade. Nay, that I mean to do. Is not this a la-
mentable thing, that the skin of an innocent lamb
should be made parchment; that parchment being
scabbled o'er, should undo a man? Some say, the bee
stings; but I say, 'tis bee's wax; for I did but seal
to a thing, and I was never my own man since.
Now now? who is there?

Enter a Clerk.

Weav. The clerk of *Chatbam*, he can write and read,
and cast accompt.

[*There shall be no money;*] To
end the world by banishing
money is an old contrivance of
those who did not consider that
squarrels and mischiefs which
come from money, as the sign or

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ticket of riches, must, if money
were to cease, arise immediately
from riches themselves, and could
never be at an end till every man
was contented with his own
share of the goods of life.

G

Cade.

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Cade. O monstrous!

Weav. We took him setting boys copies.

Cade. Here's a villain!

Weav. He's a book in his pocket with red letters in't.

Cade. Nay, then he's a conjurer.

Dick. Nay, he can make obligations, and write court-hand.

Cade. I am sorry for't: the man is a proper man, on mine honour, unless I find him guilty, he shall not die. Come hither, sirrah, I must examine thee; what is thy name?

Clerk. Emanuel.

Dick. 'They use to write it on the top of letters. 'Twill go hard with you.

Cade. Let me alone. — Dost thou use to write thy name? or hast thou a mark to thyself like an honest plain dealing man?

Clerk. Sir, I thank God, I have been so well brought up, that I can write my name.

All. He hath confest; away with him; he's a villain and a traitor.

Cade. Away with him, I say; hang him with his pen and inkhorn about his neck. [*Exit one with the clerk.*]

Enter Michael.

Mich. Where is our General?

Cade. Here I am, thou particular fellow.

Mich. Fly, fly, fly. Sir *Humphry Stafford* and his brother are hard by with the King's forces.

Cade. Stand, villain, stand, or I'll fell thee down. He shall be encounter'd with a man as good as himself. He is but a knight, is a'?

Mich. No.

⁵ They use to write it on the top of letters:} i. e. of letters
 missive, and such like publick acts. See *Mabillon's Diplomat*
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Cade. To equal him, I will make myself a knight presently. [*kneels.*] Rise up, Sir *John Mortimer*. Now have at him. Is there any more of them that be knights?

Micb. Ay, his brother.

Cade. Then kneel down, *Dick Butcher*. [*he kneels.*] Rise up, Sir *Dick Butcher*. Now sound up the drum.

S C E N E III.

Enter Sir Humphry Stafford and young Stafford, with drum and soldiers.

Staf. Rebellious hinds, the filth and skum of *Kent*, Mark'd for the gallows, lay your weapons down, Home to your cottages, forsake this groom. The King is merciful, if you revolt.

Y. Staf. But angry, wrathful, and inclin'd to blood If you go forward. Therefore yield or die.

Cade. As for these silken-coated slaves, I pass not; It is to you, good people, that I speak, O'er whom in time to come I hope to reign; For I am rightful heir unto the crown.

Staf. Villain, thy father was a plaisterer, And thou thyself a shearman, art thou not?

Cade. And *Adam* was a gardener.

Y. Staf. And what of that?

Cade. Marry this—*Edmund Mortimer* Earl of *March* married the Duke of *Clarence's* daughter, did he not?

Staf. Ay, Sir.

Cade. By her he had two children at one birth.

Y. Staf. That's false.

Cade. Ay, there's the question; but I say 'tis true. The elder of them being put to nurse, Was by a beggar-woman stol'n away; And, ignorant of his birth and parentage, Became a bricklayer when he came to age, His son am I; deny it if you can.

Dick. Nay, 'tis too true, therefore he shall be King.

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Weav. Sir, he made a chimney in my father's house, and the bricks are alive at this day to testify it; therefore deny it not.

Staf. And will you credit this base drudge's words, That speaks he knows not what?

All. Ay, marry, will we; therefore get you gone.

Y. Staf. *Jack Cade*, the Duke of *York* hath taught you this.

Cade. He lies, for I invented it myself. Go to, sirrah, tell the King from me, that for his father's sake *Henry* the fifth, in whose time boys went to span-counter for *French* crowns, I am content he shall reign; but I'll be protector over him.

Dick. And furthermore we'll have the Lord *Say's* head for selling the Dukedom of *Maine*.

Cade. And good reason; for thereby is *England* maim'd, and fain to go with a staff, but that my puissance holds it up. Fellow-Kings, I tell you, that that Lord *Say* hath gelded the common-wealth, and made it a eunuch; and more than that, he can speak *French*, and therefore he is a traitor.

Staf. O gross and miserable ignorance!

Cade. Nay, answer if you can. The *Frenchmen* are our enemies; go to then, I ask but this, can he that speaks with the tongue of the enemy, be a good counsellor or no?

All. No, no, and therefore we'll have his head.

Y. Staf. Well, seeing gentle words will not prevail, Assail them with the army of the King.

Staf. Herald, away, and throughout every town Proclaim them traitors that are up with *Cade*; That those which fly before the battle ends, May even in their wives' and children's fight Be hang'd up for example at their doors; And you, that be the King's friends, follow me.

[*Exeunt the two Staffords, with their Train*—

Cade. And you, that love the commons, follow me— Now shew yourselves men, 'tis for liberty.

W

'e will not leave one Lord, one Gentleman,
are none, but such as go in clouted shoone,
r they are thrifty honest men, and such
; would, but that they dare not, take our parts.

Dick. They are all in order, and march towards us.

Cade. But then are we in order, when we are most
t of order. Come, march forward.

[*Excunt Cade and his party.*]

[*Alarm to fight, wherein both the Staffords are slain.*]

Re-enter Cade and the rest.

Cade. Where's *Dick*, the butcher of *Ashford*?

Dick. Here, Sir.

Cade. They fell before thee like sheep and oxen, and
u behaved'st thyself as if thou hadst been in thine
n slaughter-house; therefore thus I will reward thee.
e⁶ lent shall be as long as it is, and thou shalt have
icense to kill for a hundred lacking one.

Dick. I desire no more.

Cade. And to speak truth, thou deserv'st no less.
is monument of the victory will I bear, and the
dies shall be dragged at my horse's heels till I do
me to *London*, where we will have the mayor's sword
rne before us.

Dick. * If we mean to thrive and do good, break open
: gaols, and let out the prisoners.

Cade. Fear not that, I warrant thee. Come, let's
rch towards *London*. [Excunt.]

⁶ *lent shall be as long as it is,*]
thinks it might be read more
mourously, *Lent shall be as long*
in as it is.

* *If we mean to thrive and*
do good, &c.] I think it should
be read thus, *If we mean to thrive,*
do good; break open the gaols, &c.

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S C E N E IV.

Changes to Black-Heath.

Enter King Henry with a supplication, and Queen Margaret with Suffolk's head, the Duke of Buckingham and the Lord Say.

Q. Mar. **O**FT have I heard, that grief softens mind,

And makes it fearful and degenerate ;
Think therefore on revenge, and cease to weep.
But who can cease to weep and look on this ?
Here may his head lie on my throbbing breast ;
But where's the body that I should embrace ?

Buck. What answer makes your Grace to the re supplication ?

K. Henry. I'll send some holy bishop to intreat
For God forbid so many simple souls
Should perish by the sword. And I myself,
Rather than bloody war should cut them short,
Will parly with *Jack Cade* their General.
But stay, I'll read it over once again.

Q. Mar. Ah, barbarous villains ! hath this lovely
* *Rul'd* like a wandering planet over me,
And could it not inforce them to relent,
That were unworthy to behold the same ?

K. Henry. Lord *Say*, *Jack Cade* hath sworn to thy head.

Say. Ay, but I hope, your highness shall hav

K. Henry. How now Madam ?
Lamenting still, and mourning *Suffolk's* death ?
I fear me, love, if that I had been dead,
Thou wouldest not have mourn'd so much for me

Q. Mar. My love, I should not mourn, but (thee,

* *Rul'd* like a wandering pla- planets over the lives c
get —] Predominated ir- that are born under thei
sensibly over my passions, as the ence.

Enter a Messenger.

K. Henry. How now? what news? why com'st thou in such haste?

Mes. The rebels are in *Southwark*; fly, my Lord.
Jack Cade proclaims himself Lord *Mortimer*,
Descended from the Duke of *Clarence*' house,
And calls your Grace usurper openly,
And vows to crown himself in *Westminster*.
His army is a ragged multitude
Of hinds and peasants, rude and merciless;
Sir *Humphrey Stafford* and his brother's death
Hath given them heart and courage to proceed;
All scholars, lawyers, courtiers, gentlemen,
They call false caterpillars, and intend their death.

K. Henry. O graceless men! they know not what they do.

Buck. My gracious Lord, retire to *Killingworth*,
Until a Power be rais'd to put them down.

Q. Mar. Ah! were the Duke of *Suffolk* now alive,
These *Kentish* rebels should be soon appeas'd.

K. Henry. Lord *Say*, the traitors hate thee,
Therefore away with us to *Killingworth*.

Say. So might your Grace's person be in danger.
The sight of me is odious in their eyes;
And therefore in this city will I stay,
And live alone as secret as I may.

Enter another Messenger.

2. Mes. *Jack Cade* hath gotten *London bridge*,
The citizens fly him, and forsake their houses,
The rascal people, thirsting after prey,
Join with the traitor; and they jointly swear
To spoil the city and your royal court.

Buck. Then linger not, my Lord; away, take horse.

K. Henry. Come, *Marg'ret*. God our hope will succour us.

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Q. Mar. [*Afide.*] My hope is gone now *Suffolk* is deceas'd.

K. Henry. Farewel, my Lord, trust not to *Kentish* rebels.

Buck. Trust no body, for fear you be betray'd.

Say. The trust I have is in mine innocence,
And therefore am I bold and resolute. [*Exeunt,*

S C E N E V.

Changes to London.

Enter Lord Scales upon the Tower walking. Then enter two or three citizens below.

Scales. **H**OW now? is *Jack Cade* slain?

1 Cit. No, my Lord, nor like to be slain, for they have won the bridge, killing all those that withstand them; the Lord Mayor craves aid of your honour from the *Tower* to defend the city from the rebels.

Scales. Such aid, as I can spare, you shall command;
But I am troubled here with them myself.
The rebels have assay'd to win the *Tower*.
But get you into *Smithfield*, gather head,
And thither will I send you *Matthew Goff*.
Fight for your King, your country and your lives,
And so farewell, for I must hence again. [*Exeunt,*

S C E N E *changes to Cannon-Street.*

Enter Jack Cade and the rest, and strikes his staff on London-Stone.

Cade. **N**OW is *Mortimer* Lord of this city, and here sitting upon *London-Stone*. I charge and command that of the city's cost the pissing conduit run nothing but claret wine the first year of our reign.
And

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And now hence-forward it shall be treason for any that
calls me other than Lord *Mortimer*.

Enter a soldier running.

Sol. Jack Cade, Jack Cade!

Cade. Knock him down there. *[They kill him.*

Weav. If this fellow be wise, he'll never call you
Jack Cade more; I think, he hath a very fair warning.

Dick. My Lord, there's an army gathered together
in *Smithfield*.

Cade. Come then, let's go fight with them. But
first go and set *London-bridge* on fire, and if you can,
burn down the *Tower* too. Come, let's away.

[Exeunt omnes.

SCENE *changes to Smithfield.*

Alern. *Matthew Goff is slain, and all the rest. Then*
enter Jack Cade with his company.

Cade. SO, Sirs. Now go some and pull down the
Savoy; others to the inns of courts; down
with them all.

Dick. I have a suit unto your Lordship.

Cade. Be it a Lordship, thou shalt have it for that
word.

Dick. Only that the laws of *England* may come out
of your mouth.

John. Mass, 'twill be sore law then, for he was
thrust in the mouth with a spear, and 'tis not whole
yet.

Smith. Nay, *John*, it will be stinking law, for his
breath stinks with eating roasted cheese.

Cade. I have thought upon it, it shall be so. Away,
burn all the records of the realm; my mouth shall be
the parliament of *England*.

John.

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John. Then we are like to have biting statutes, lest his teeth be pull'd out.

Cade. And henceforward all things shall be in common.

S C E N E VI.

Enter a Messenger.

Mes. My Lord, a prize, a prize ! Here's the *Lord Say* which sold the town in *France* ; he that made pay one and twenty fifteens and one shilling to pound, the last subsidy.

Enter George with the Lord Say.

Cade. Well, he shall be beheaded for it ten times. Ah, thou *Say*, thou *serge*,⁷ nay, thou buckram I now art thou within point-blank of our jurisdiction. What canst thou answer to my Majesty for bringing up of *Normandy* unto Monsieur *Basmecca*, Dauphin of *France* ? Be it known unto thee by presents, even the presence of Lord *Mortimer*, I am the besom that must sweep the court clean of filth as thou art. Thou hast most traiterously corrupted the youth of the Realm in erecting a grammar-school and whereas before, our fore-fathers had no other book but the score and the tally, thou hast caused * pri to be us'd ; and contrary to the King, his crown dignity, thou hast built a paper-mill. It will be put to thy face that thou hast men about thee, that will talk of a *Noun* and a *Verb*, and such abominable words as no christian ear can endure to hear. Thou hast appointed justices of the peace to call poor men to them, about matters they were not able to an-

⁷ *thou Say, thou serge,*] *Say serge* to buckram.

was the old word for *filk*, on this depends the series of degradation, from *say* to *serge*, from *serge* to *buckram*.
* *Printing to be us'd*] *speare* is a little too early for this accusation.

Moreover, thou hast put them in prison; and because they could not read, thou hast hang'd them; * when, indeed, only for that cause they have been most worthy to live. Thou dost ride on a foot-cloth, dost thou not?

Say. What of that?

Cade. Marry, thou ought'st not * to let thy horse wear a cloak when honest men than thou go in their hose and doublets.

Dick. And work in their shirt too; as myself, for example, that am a butcher.

Say. You men of Kent,——

Dick. What say you of Kent?

Say. Nothing but this: 'Tis *bona terra, mala gens*.

Cade. Away with him, away with him, he speaks Latin.

Say. Hear me but speak, and bear me where you will.

Kent, in the Commentaries *Cæsar* writ,
Is term'd the civil'st place of all this isle;
Sweet is the country, because full of riches,
The people liberal, valiant, active, wealthy,
Which makes me hope thou art not void of pity.
I sold not *Maine*; I lost not *Normandy*,
Yet, to recover them, would lose my life.
Justice with favour have I always done;
Prayers and tears have mov'd me, gifts could never.
When have I aught exacted at your hands? †

Kent.

* because they could not read, thou hast hang'd them;] That is, they were hanged because they could not claim the benefit of clergy.

† To let thy horse wear a cloak.] This is a reproach truly characteristic. Nothing gives so much offence to the lower ranks of mankind as the sight of superfluities merely ostentatious.

‡ When have I aught exacted at your hands?

Kent to maintain, the King, the realm and you,
Large gifts have I bestow'd on learned clerks,

Because my back preferr'd me to the king;] This passage I know not well how to explain. It is pointed so as to make Say declare that he preferr'd clerks to

to

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Kent to maintain, the King, the realm and you,
Large gifts have I bestow'd on learned clerks,
Because my book preferr'd me to the King ;
And seeing, ignorance is the curse of God,
Knowledge the wing wherewith we fly to heav'n,
Unless you be possess'd with dev'lish spirits,
Ye cannot but forbear to murder me.
This tongue hath parlied unto foreign Kings
For your behoof.

Cade. Tut, when struck'st thou one blow in the field ?

Say. Great men have reaching hands ; oft have I struck
Those that I never saw, and struck them dead.

George. O monstrous coward ! what, to come behind folks ?

Say. These cheeks are pale with watching for your good.

Cade. Give him a box o'th' ear, and that will make 'em red again.

Say. Long sitting to determine poor mens' Causes
Hath made me full of sickness and diseases.

Cade. Ye shall have a hempen caudle then, and the help of a hatchet.

Dick. Why dost thou quiver, man ?

Say. The palsy, and not fear, provokes me.

Cade. Nay, he nods at us, as who should say, I'll be even with you. I'll see, if his head will stand steadier on a pole or no. Take him away, and behead him.

Say. Tell me, wherein have I offended most ?
Have I affected wealth or honour, speak.

to maintain *Kent* and the *King*.
This is not very clear ; and besides, he gives in the following line another reason of his bounty, that learning raised him, and therefore he supported learning. I am inclined to think *Kent* slip-

ped into this passage by chance, and would read,

*When have I aught exalted at
your hand,*

*But to maintain the King, the
realm, and you ?*

Are

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my chests fill'd up with extorted gold ?
 ' apparel sumptuous to behold ?
 n have I injur'd, that ye seek my death ?
 hands are free from guiltless blood-shedding,
 breast from harb'ring foul deceitful thoughts.
 me live ! ———

2. I feel remorse in myself with his words ; but
 idle it ; he shall die, an it be for pleading fo
 or his life. Away with him, he has a Familiar
 his tongue, he speaks not o'God's name. Go,
 im away, I say, and strike off his head present-
 id then break into his son-in-law's house, Sir
 Cromer, and strike off his head, and bring them
 pon two poles hither.

It shall be done.

Ah, Country-men, if when you make your
 pray'rs,
 ould be so obdurate as yourselves,
 ould it fare with your departed souls ;
 erefore yet relent, and save my life.

1. Away with him, and do as I command ye.
 ouldst peer of the Realm shall not wear a head
 shoulders, unless he pay me tribute ; there shall
 maid be married, but she shall pay me her
 head ere they have it ; men shall hold of me
 ise, and we charge and command, that their
 be as free as heart can wish, or tongue can tell.

1. My Lord, when shall we go to *Cheapside*, and
 commodities upon our bills ?

1. Marry, presently.

O brave !

Enter one with the heads.

1. But is not this braver ? Let them kiss one
 ; for they lov'd well when they were alive.
 art them again, lest they consult about the giv-
 of some more towns in *France*. Soldiers, de-

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fer the spoil of the city until night; for with ~~these~~
borne before us instead of maces, will we ride through
the streets, and at every corner have them kifs. A-
way. [Exeunt.

SCENE VII.

Changes to SOUTHWARK.

*Alarm, and Retreat. Enter again Cade, and all his
Rabblement.*

Cade. **U**P *Fish-street*, down *St. Magnus'* Corner, kill
and knock down; throw them into *Tbamus*.
[A Parley sounded.

What noise is this I hear?
Dare any be so bold to sound retreat or parley,
When I command them kill?

Enter Buckingham and old Clifford, attended.

Buck. Ay, here they be that dare and will disturb
thee.

Know, Cade, we come Ambassadors from the King
Unto the Commons, whom thou hast misled;
And here pronounce free pardon to them all,
That will forsake thee, and go home in peace.

Clif. What say ye, Country-men, will ye relent,
And yield to mercy whilst 'tis offer'd you,
Or let a rabble lead you to your deaths?
Who loves the King; and will embrace his Pardon,
Fling up his cap, and say, *God save his majesty!*
Who hateth him, and honours not his father,
Henry the fifth, that made all *France* to quake,
Shake he his weapon at us, and pass by.

All. God save the King! God save the King!

Cade. What *Buckingham* and *Clifford*, are ye so brave
and you, base peasants, do ye believe 'em? will you
need

K I N G H E N R Y VI. 95

hang'd with your pardons about your necks ?
 sword therefore broke through *London*' gates,
 should leave me at the *White-bart* in *South*-
 I thought, you never would have given out
 is, till you had recover'd your ancient Free-
 it you are all recreants and dastards, and de-
 live in slavery to the Nobility. Let them
 ur backs with burthens, take your houses over
 ids, ravish your wives and daughters before
 s. For me, I will make shift for one, and so
 rse 'light upon you all !

We'll follow *Cade*, we'll follow *Cade*.

Is *Cade* the son of *Henry* the fifth,
 is you do exclaim, you'll go with him ?
 conduct you through the heart of *France*,
 ke the meanest of you Earls and Dukes ?

hath no home, no place to fly to,
 ws he how to live but by the spoil
 y robbing of your friends and us.
 not a shame, that, whilst you live at ja-
 ful *French*, whom you late vanquished,
 make a start o'er seas, and vanquish you ?
 is, already in this civil broil
 m lording it in *London* streets,

Villageois ! unto all they meet.
 ten thousand base-born *Cades* miscarry ;
 ou should stoop unto a *Frenchman*'s mercy :
 ice to *France*, and get what you have lost .
 'ngland, for it is your native Coast.
 hath money, you are strong and manly ;
 our side doubt not of victory.

ry *hath money*.] Dr. of *French* plunder. He bids
n reads, Henry *hath* them *spare* England, and go to
 ut he does not seem to France, and encourages them by
 ended to the speaker's telling them that all is ready for
 ich is to lure them from their expedition ; that they have
 sent design by the hope *strength*, and the king has *money*.

All.

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All. A Clifford! a Clifford! we'll follow the King and Clifford.

Cade. Was ever feather so lightly blown to and fro as this multitude? The Name of *Henry* the fifth hath them to an hundred mischiefs, and makes them let me desolate. I see them lay their heads together surprize me. My sword make way for me, for he is no staying; in despite of the devils and hell, ha through the very midst of you; and heavens and honour be witness, that no want of resolution in me, but only my followers base and ignominious treasons, make me betake me to my heels. [Exit

Buck. What, is he fled? go some, and follow him And he that brings his head unto the King, Shall have a thousand crowns for his reward.

[Exit some of the
Follow me, soldiers; we'll devise a mean
To reconcile you all unto the King, [Exit

4 S C E N E VIII.

The Palace at Killingworth.

Sound trumpets. Enter King Henry, Queen Margaret and Somerset on the Terras.

K. Henry. WAS ever King that joy'd an earthly throne,
And could command no more content than I?
No sooner was I crept out of my cradle,
But I was made a King at nine months old.
Was never subject long'd to be a King,
As I do long and wish to be a subject.

Enter Buckingham and Clifford.

Buck. Health, and glad tidings to his Majesty!

K. Henry. Why, *Buckingham*, is the traitor *Cade* surpriz'd?

Or is he but retir'd to make him strong ?

Enter multitudes with balts about their necks.

Clif. He's fled, my Lord, and all his pow'rs do
yield,
And humbly thus with halts on their necks
Expect your highness doom of life or death.

K. Henry. Then, heaven set ope thy everlasting
gates,
To entertain my vows of thanks and praise.
Soldiers, this day have you redeem'd your lives,
And shew'd how well you love your Prince and Country,
Continue still in this so good a mind,
And *Henry*, though he be unfortunate,
Assure yourselves will never be unkind.
And so with thanks and pardon to you all,
I do dismiss you to your several countries.

All. God save the King ! God save the King !

Enter Messenger.

Meſ. Please it your Grace to be advertised,
The Duke of *York* is newly come from *Ireland* ;
And with a puissant and mighty pow'r
Of Gallow-glasses and stout Kernes,
Is marching hitherward in proud array ;
And still proclaimeth, as he comes along,
His arms are only to remove from thee
The Duke of *Somerſet*, whom he terms a traitor.

K. Henry. Thus stands my state, 'twixt *Cade* and
York distrest ;
Like to a ship, that, having 'scap'd a tempest,
Is straightway claim'd and boarded with a pirate.

But

² *Is straitway claim'd and boarded with a pirate.]* So
e Editions read; and one would
ink it plain enough; alluding
Vol. V. to *York's* claim to the crown,
Cade's head-long tumult was well
compared to a *tempest*, as *York's*
premeditated rebellion to a *pira-*
11 97

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But now is *Cade* driv'n back, his men dispers'd,
And now is *York* in arms to second him.
I pray thee, *Buckingham*, go and meet with him,
And ask him what's the reason of these arms.
Tell him, I'll send Duke *Edmund* to the *Tower* ;
And, *Somerſet*, we will commit thee thither,
Until his army be diſmiſt from him.

Som. My Lord,
I'll yield myſelf to priſon willingly,
Or unto death, to do my country good.

K. Henry. In any caſe be not too rough in term
For he is fierce and cannot brook hard language.

Buck. I will, my Lord ; and doubt not ſo to
As all things ſhall redound unto your Good.

K. Henry. Come, wife, let's in, and learn to
vern better,
For yet may *England* curſe my wretched Reign.

[*Ex*

S C E N E IX.

A Garden in Kent.

Enter Jack Cade.

Cade. **F**IE on ambitions ; ſy on myſelf, that
a ſword, and yet am ready to famiſh. 7
five days have I hid me in theſe woods and durſt
peep out, for all the country is laid for me ; but
am I ſo hungry, that if I might have a leaſe o
life for a thouſand years, I could ſtay no longer ; w

cy. But ſee what it is to be cri-
tical ; Mr. *Theobald* ſays, *claim'd*
ſhould be *calm'd*, becauſe a *calm*
frequently ſucceeds a *tempeſt*. It
may be ſo ; but not here, if the
King's word may be taken : who
expreſſly ſays, that no ſooner was

Cade driven back, but *Y*
pear'd in arms,

But now is Cade driv'n
his men diſpers'd ;
And now is York in arm
cond him WARBU

fore on a brick-wall have I climb'd into this garden to see if I can eat grafs, or pick a *fallet* another while, which is not amifs to cool a man's ftomach this hot weather. And, I think, this word *fallet* was born to do me good ; for many a time, ¹ but for a *fallet* my brain-pan had been cleft with a brown bill ; and many a time when I have been dry, and bravely marching, it hath ferv'd me inftead of a quart pot to drink in ; and now the word *fallet* muft ferve me to feed on

Enter Iden.

Iden. Lord ! who would live turmoiled in the Court, And may enjoy fuch quiet walks as thefe ? This fmall inheritance my father left me, Contenteth me, and's worth a monarchy. I feek not to wax great by others' waining, Or gather wealth, I care not with what envy ; Sufficeth that I have maintains my ftate, And fends the poor well pleafed from my gate.

Cade. Here's the Lord of the foil come to feize me for a ftay, for entring his fee-fimple without leave. Ah villain, thou wilt betray me and get a thoufand crowns of the King by carrying my head to him ; but I'll make thee eat iron like an oſtridge, and ſwallow my ſword like a great pin, ere thou and I part.

Iden. Why, rude companion, whatfoe'r thou be, I know thee not ; why then ſhould I betray thee ? Is't not enough to break into my garden, And, like a thief, to come to rob my grounds, Climbing my walls in ſpight of me the owner, But thou wilt brave me with thefe ſawcy terms ?

Cade. Brave thee ? by the beſt blood that ever was broach'd, and beard thee too. Look on me well, I have eat no meat theſe five days, yet come thou and

¹ but for a *fallet*, my brain-pan, *cælata*, a helmet, (ſays Skinner) kc.] A *fallet* by corruption from *quin galeæ cælatae fuerunt*. POPE.

thy five men, and if I do not leave you as dead as a door-nail, I pray God, I may never eat grafs more.

Iden. Nay, it shall ne'er be said while *England* stands,

That *Alexander Iden* an Esquire of *Kent*,
Took odds to combat a poor famish'd man.
Oppose thy stedfast gazing eyes to mine,
See, if thou canst out-face me with thy looks;
Set limb to limb, and thou art far the lesser;
Thy hand is but a finger to my fist;
Thy leg a stick, compared with this truncheon,
My foot shall fight with all the strength thou hast;
And if mine arm be heaved in the air,
Thy grave is digg'd already in the earth.

* As for more words, whose greatness answers words,
Let this my sword report what speech forbears.

Cade. By my valour, the most compleat champion
that ever I heard. Steel, if thou turn thine edge, or
cut not out the burly-bon'd Clown in chines of beef
ere thou sleep in thy sheath, I beseech *Jove* on my
knees thou mayst be turned into hobnails.

[*Here they fight.*]

O I am slain! famine, and no other, hath slain me;
let ten thousand devils come against me, and give me
but the ten meals I have lost, and I'd defy them all.
Wither garden, and be henceforth a burying place to
all that do dwell in this house; because the unconquer'd
soul of *Cade* is fled.

* As for more words, whose
greatness answers words,
Let this my sword report what
speech forbears] Sir T. Han-
mer, and after him Dr. War-
burton, read,

As for more words, let this my
sword report
(Whose greatness answers words)
What speech forbears.

It seems to be a poor praise of a

sword, that its greatness answers
words, whatever be the mean-
ing of the expression. The old
reading, though somewhat ob-
scure, seems to me more capa-
ble of explanation. For more
words, whose pomp and tumour
may answer words, and only
words, I shall forbear them, and
refer the rest to my sword.

Iden.

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s't *Cade* that I have slain, that monstrous
itor ?

will hallow thee for this thy deed,
thee o'er my tomb, when I am dead.

this blood be wiped from thy point,
halt wear it as a herald's coat,

the honour which thy master got.

Iden, farewell, and be proud of thy victory.

from me, she hath lost her best man ; and

the world to be cowards ; for I, that never

am vanquish'd by famine, not by valour.

How much thou wrong'st me, heaven be
judge ! *[Dies.]*

and wretch, the Curse of her that bare thee ;

thrust thy body in with my sword,

, I might thrust thy soul to hell.

I I drag thee headlong by the heels

downhill, which shall be thy grave ;

cut off thy most ungracious head,

will bear in triumph to the King,

my trunk for crows to feed upon. *[Exit.]*

thou wrong'st me.] draw a man *by the heels, headlong,*
supposing that I am is somewhat difficult ; nor can I
victory. discover how *the dunghill would*

I, I might thrust thy be his grave if his trunk were left
hell.] Not to dwell *to be fed upon by crows.* These

heedlessness of this hor- I conceive not to be the faults of

th which *Iden* deba- corruption but of negligence,

character, this whole and therefore do not attempt

and confused. To correction.

ACT V. SCENE I.

In the Fields near London.

Enter York, and his army of Irish, with drum and colours.

YORK, at a distance from his followers.

FROM Ireland thus comes York to claim his Right,
And pluck the Crown from feeble Henry's head.
Ring, bells, aloud; burn, bonfires, clear and bright,
To entertain great England's lawful King.
Ah Majesty! who would not buy thee dear?
Let them obey, that know not how to rule.
This hand was made to handle nought but gold,
I cannot give due action to my words,
Except a sword, or scepter, balance it. *
A scepter shall it have, have I a soul, †
On which I'll toss the Flower de-luce of France,

Enter Buckingham.

Whom have we here? Buckingham to disturb me?
The King hath sent him, sure. I must dissemble.

Buck. York, if thou mean'st well, I greet thee well.

York. Humphry of Buckingham, I accept thy greeting
Art thou a messenger, or come of pleasure?

Buck. A messenger from Henry our dread Liege,
To know the reason of these Arms in Peace?
Or why, thou, being a Subject as I am,
Against thy oath and true allegiance sworn,

* —balance it.] That is, balance my hand

† A scepter shall it have, have I a soul,] I read, A scepter shall it have, have I a sword. York observes that his hand must

be employed with a sword scepter; he then naturally observes, that he has a sword, and resolves that if he has a sword, he will have a scepter.

Shouldst raise so great a power without his leave,
Or dare to bring thy force so near the Court ?

York. Scarce can I speak, my choler is so
great.

Oh! I could hew up rocks and fight with flint,
I am so angry at these abject terms.

And now, like *Ajax Telemonius*,

On sheep or oxen could I spend my fury.

I am far better born than is the King,

More like a King, more kingly in my
thoughts.

But I must make fair weather yet a while,

Till *Henry* be more weak and I more strong.

O *Buckingham*! I pr'ythee, pardon me,

That I have giv'n no answer all this while ;

My mind was troubled with deep melancholy.

The cause, why I have brought this army hither,

Is to remove proud *Somerset* from the King,

Seditious to his Grace and to the State.

Buck. That is too much presumption on thy part ;

But if thy arms be to no other end,

The King hath yielded unto thy demand,

The Duke of *Somerset* is in the *Tower*.

York. Upon thine Honour is he prisoner ?

Buck. Upon mine Honour, he is prisoner.

York. Then, *Buckingham*, I do dismiss my Powers.

—Soldiers, I thank you all ; disperse yourselves ;

Meet me to morrow in *St. George's* field,

You shall have Pay and every thing you wish.

—And let my Sovereign, virtuous *Henry*,

Command my eldest son ; nay, all my sons,

As pledges of my fealty and love,

I'll send them all as willing as I live ;

Lands, goods, horse, armour, any thing I have

Is his to use, so *Somerset* may die.

Buck. *York*, I commend this kind submission,

We twain will go into his Highness' tent. [*Exeunt.*

S C E N E II.

Changes to the King's Pavilion.

Enter King Henry and Attendants. Re-enter Buckingham and York, attended.

K. Henry. **B**uckingham, doth York intend no Harm
to us,

That thus he marcheth with thee arm in arm ?

York. In all submission and humility,

York doth present himself unto your Highness.

K. Henry. Then what intend these forces thou dost
bring ?

York. To heave the traitor *Somerſet* from hence,
And fight againſt that monſtrous Rebel *Cade*,
Whom, ſince, I heard to be diſcomfited.

Enter Iden with Cade's head.

Iden. If one ſo rude, and of ſo mean condition,
May paſs into the preſence of a King,
Lo, I preſent your Grace a traitor's head ;
The head of *Cade*, whom I in Combat ſlew.

K. Henry. The head of *Cade* ? Great God ! how
juſt art thou ?

O, let me view his viſage being dead,
That, living, wrought me ſuch exceeding trouble.
Tell me, my friend ; art thou the man, that ſlew him ?

Iden. I was, an't like your Maſteſty.

K. Henry. How art thou call'd ? and what is thy
degree ?

Iden. *Alexander Iden*, that's my name,
A poor Eſquire of *Kent*, that loves the King.

Buck. So pleaſe it you, my Lord, 'twere not amiſs
He were created Knight for his good ſervice.

K. Henry. Iden, kneel down. [*he kneels*] Riſe up a
Knight,

We

KING HENRY VI.

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ve thee for reward a thousand marks,
ll, that thou henceforth attend on us.

May *Iden* live to merit such a bounty,
ver live but true unto his Liege!

Henry. See, *Buckingham*, *Somerſet* comes with the
Queen;

l her hide him quickly from the Duke.

[*Exit Buck*,

S C E N E III.

Enter Queen Margaret and Somerſet.

Marg. For thousand *Yorks* he ſhall not hide his
head,

ldly ſtand and front him to his face.

. How now? is *Somerſet* at liberty?

York, unloofe thy long imprifon'd thoughts,

t thy tongue be equal with thy heart.

endure the fight of *Somerſet*?

ing! why haſt thou broken faith with me,

ng how hardly I can brook abuſe?

id I call thee? no, thou art no King,

to govern and rule multitudes,

durſt not, no, nor canſt not rule a traitor.

ead of thine doth not become a Crown,

nd is made to graſp a palmer's ſtaff,

t to grace an awful princely ſcepter.

old muſt round engirt theſe brows of mine,

ſmile and frown, like to *Achilles'* ſpear,

with the change to kill and cure.

a hand to hold a ſcepter up,

th the ſame to act controlling laws,

ace; by heav'n, thou ſhalt rule no more

m, whom heav'n created for thy ruler.

O monſtrous traitor! I arreſt thee *York*,

tal treaſon 'gainſt the King and Crown;

audacious traitor, kneel for grace.

York.

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York. Sirrah, call in my sons to be my bail;
 7 Wouldst have me kneel? First, let me ask of these,
 If they can brook I bow a knee to man.
 I know, ere they will let me go to Ward,
 They'll pawn their swords for my enfranchisement.

Q. Mar. Call hither *Clifford*; bid him come again,
 To say, if that the bastard boys of *York*
 Shall be the Surety for their traitor father.

York. O blood-bespotted *Neapolitan*,
 Out-cast of *Naples*, *England's* bloody scourge!
 The sons of *York*, thy Betters in their Birth,
 8 Shall be their father's bail, and bane to those
 That for my surety will refuse the boys.

Enter Edward and Richard.

See, where they come; I'll warrant, they'll make it
 good.

Enter Clifford.

Q. Mar. And here comes *Clifford*, to deny their
 bail.

Clif. Health and all Happiness to my Lord the
 King! [kneels.]

York. I thank thee, *Clifford*; say, what news with
 thee?

Nay, do not fright us with an angry look,
 We are thy Sovereign, *Clifford*, kneel again;
 For thy mistaking so, we pardon thee.

7 *Wouldst have me kneel? First*
let me ask of these,
If they can brook I bow a knee
to man.

Sirrah, call in my Sons to be my
bail) As these lines have
 hitherto stood, I think the Sense
 perplexed and obscure. I have
 ventur'd to transpose them.

WARBURTON.

8 *Shall be their Father's Bail,*

and Bane to those,] Consider-
 ing how our Author loves to play
 on Words, similar in their sound, but
 opposite in their Signification, I
 make no Doubt but the Author
 wrote *bail* and *bale*. *Bale*, (from
 whence our common Adjective,
baleful) signifies, *Detriment, Ruin,*
Misfortune, &c. THEOBALD.

* *Bale* signifies *sorrow*. Either
 word may serve.

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—To *Bedlam* with him, is the man grown mad?

Makes him oppose himself against his King.

Q. Mar. He is arretted, but will not obey,
His sons, he says, shall give their words for him.

E. Plan. Ay, noble father, if our words will serve,

Clif. Why, what a brood of traitors have we here?

— Call hither to the stake my two brave bears,

They may astonish these fell-lurking curs,

S C E N E IV.

And manacle the bear-ward in their chains,
If thou dar'st bring them to the baiting place.

• *Call hither to the stake me;
two brave bears,*

— Bid Salisbury and War-

wick come.] *Fork* calls these Lords his *bears* because they had a *bear* for their arms.

And

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And such a piece of service will you do,
If you oppose yourselves to match Lord *Warwick*.

Clif. Hence, heap of wrath, foul indigested lump,
As crooked in thy manners, as thy shape.

York. Nay, we shall heat you thoroughly anon.

Clif. Take heed, lest by your heat you burn yourselves.

K. Henry. Why, *Warwick*, hath thy knee forgot to bow ?

Old *Salisbury*, shame to thy silver hair,
Thou mad mis-leader of thy brain-sick son,
What, wilt thou on thy death-bed play the ruffian,
And seek for sorrow with thy spectacles ?
Oh, where is faith ? oh, where is loyalty ?
If it be banish'd from the frosty head,
Where shall it find a harbour in the earth ?
Wilt thou go dig a grave to find out war,
And shame thine honourable age with blood ?
Why, art thou old, and want'st experience ?
Or wherefore dost abuse it, if thou hast it ?
For shame, in duty bend thy knee to me,
That bows unto the grave with mickle age.

Sal. My Lord, I have consider'd with myself
The Title of this most renowned Duke ;
And in my conscience do repute his Grace
The rightful heir to *England's* royal Seat.

K. Henry. Hast thou not sworn allegiance unto me ?

Sal. I have.

K. Henry. Canst thou dispense with heav'n for such an oath ?

Sal. It is great sin to swear unto a sin,
But greater sin to keep a sinful oath.
Who can be bound by any solemn vow
To do a murd'rous deed, to rob a man,
To force a spotless virgin's chastity,
To 'reave the orphan of his patrimony,
To wring the widow from her custom'd right,
And have no other reason for his wrong,

But

You had best go to bed and dream again,
thence from the tempest of the field.
Edm. I am resolv'd to bear a greater storm
than thou canst conjure up to day:
I'll write upon thy Burgonet,
but know thee by thy House's badge.
Now by my father's Badge, old *Nevill's* Crest,
I'll pant bear chain'd to the rugged staff,
I'll wear aloft my Burgonet,
mountain-top the cedar shews,
heeps his leaves in spight of any storm,
affright thee with the view thereof.
Edm. And from thy Burgonet I'll rend thy bear,
and tread it under foot with all contempt,
I'll be the bear-ward, that protects the bear.
Edm. And so to Arms, victorious noble father,
I'll slay the rebels and their complices.
Edm. Fly, charity for shame, speak not in spight,
thou shalt sup with Jesu Christ to-night.
Edm. Foul stigmatick, that's more than thou
canst tell.
Edm. If not in heav'n, you'll surely sup in hell.
[*Exeunt, severally.*]

S C E N E V.

Changes to a Field of Battle at St. Albans.

Enter Warwick.

War. CLIFFORD of Cumberland, 'tis *Warwick* calls;
 And if thou dost not hide thee from the bear,
 Now when the angry trumpet sounds alarm,
 And dying men's cries do fill the empty air,
Clifford, I say, come forth and fight with me;
 Proud northern Lord, *Clifford of Cumberland*,
Warwick is hoarse with calling thee to arms.

Enter York.

How now, my Lord? what all a-foot?

York. The deadly-handed *Clifford* slew my Steed;
 But match to match I have encountred him,
 And made a prey for carrion kites and crows
 Ev'n of the bonny beast he lov'd so well.

Enter Clifford.

War. Of one or both of us the time is come.

York. Hold, *Warwick*, seek thee out some other
 chace,
 For I myself must hunt this deer to death.

War. I then nobly, *York*; 'tis for a Crown thou
 fight'it.

As I intend, *Clifford*, to thrive to day,
 It grieves my soul to leave thee unassail'd. [*Exit War.*

Clif. What seest thou in me, *York*? why dost thou
 pause?

York. With thy brave Bearing should I be in love,
 But that thou art so fast mine enemy.

Clif. Nor should thy Prowess want praise and esteem.
 But

But that 'tis shown ignobly, and in treason.

York So let it help me now against thy sword,
As I in Justice and true Right express it.

Clif. My soul and body on the action both!—

York. ² A dreadful lay. Address thee instantly.

Clif. *La fin couronne les œuvres.*

[*Fight.*

[*Dies.*

York. Thus war hath given thee peace, for thou art still;

Peace with his soul, heav'n, if it be thy will! [*Exit.*

Enter young Clifford.

Y. Clif. Shame and confusion! all is on the rout;
Fear frames disorder; and disorder wounds,
Where it should guard. O war! thou son of hell,
Whom angry heav'ns do make their minister,
Throw in the frozen bosoms of our part
Hot coals of vengeance. Let no soldier fly.

He, that is truly dedicate to war,
Hath no self-love; for he, that loves himself,
Hath not essentially, but by circumstance,
The name of valour.—O let the vile world end,

[*Seeing his dead father.*

¹ And the premised flames of the last day

Knit earth and heav'n together:

Now let the general trumpet blow his blast,

Particularities and petty sounds

To cease! Wast thou ordained, O dear father,

To lose thy youth in peace, and ⁴ to achieve

The silver livery of advised age;

And in thy reverence, and thy chair-days, thus

To die in ruffian battle? Even at this fight

My heart is turn'd to stone; and while 'tis mine,

² *A dreadful lay.*] A dreadful
wager; a tremendous stake.

³ *And the premised flames:—*] *Premised,* for sent before their

time The sense is, let the flames
reserved for the last day be sent
now.

WARBURTON.

⁴ *To achieve,* to obtain.

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It shall be stony. *York* not our old men spares :
 No more will I their babes ; tears virginal
 Shall be to me even as the dew to fire,
 And Beauty, that the tyrant oft reclaims,
 Shall to my flaming wrath be oil and flax.
 Henceforth I will not have to do with pity:
 Meet I an infant of the House of *York*,
 Into as many gobbets will I cut it,
 As wild *Medea* young *Abfyrus* did.
 In cruelty will I seek out my fame.
 Come, thou new ruin of old *Clifford's* House :
 As did *Aeneas* old *Anchises* bear,
 So I bear thee upon my manly shoulders ;
 But then *Aeneas* bare a living load,
 Nothing so heavy as these woes of mine.

[*Exit bearing off his Father.*]

Enter Richard Plantagenet and Somerset, to fight.

R. Plan. ' So, lie thou there. [*Somerſet is killed.*]
 For underneath an ale-house' paltry Sign,
 The Castle in *St. Albans, Somerset*
 Hath made the Wizard ⁶ famous in his death.
 Sword, hold thy temper ; heart, be wrathful still :
 Priests pray for enemies, but Princes kill.

[*Exit Richard Plantagenet.*]

' So, lie thou there.
 For underneath an ale-house'
 paltry Sign,
 The Castle in *St. Alban's, So-*
merſet
 Hath made the Wizard famous.]

The particle *for* in the second
 line seems to be used without
 any very apparent inference. We
 might read,

Fall'n underneath an ale-house'
 paltry sign, &c.

Yet the alteration is not neces-
 sary, for the old reading is sense,
 though obscure.

⁶ Famous in his death.] The
 death of *Somerſet* here accom-
 plishes that equivocal Prediction
 given by *Jordan*, the Witch,
 concerning this Duke ; which
 we met with at the Close of the
 first *Act* of this Play :

Let him soon Castles ;
 Safer shall he be upon the sandy
 Plains,
 Than where Castles mounted,
 stand.

i. e. the Representation of a Cas-
 tle, mounted for a Sign.

THEOBALD.

SCENE

S C E N E VI.

Fight. Excursions. Enter King Henry, Queen Margaret, and others.

Q. Mar. Away, my Lord, you are slow, for shame, away.

K. Henry. Can we out-run the heav'ns? Good *Margret*, stay.

Q. Mar. What are you made of? you'll not fight, nor fly.

Now is it manhood, wisdom and defence,
To give the enemy way, and to secure us
By what we can, which can no more but fly.

[Alarm afar off.]

If you be ta'en, we then shall see the bottom
Of all our fortunes; but if we haply scape,
As well we may, if not through your neglect,
We shall to *London* get where you are lov'd,
And where this breach, now in our fortunes made,
May readily be stopt.

Enter Clifford.

Clif. But that my heart's on future mischief set,
I would speak blasphemy, ere bid you fly,
But fly you must; incurable discomfit
Reigns in the hearts of all our present parts.
Away, for your relief; and we will live
To see their day, and them our fortune give.
Away, my Lord, away! *[Exeunt.]*

Alarm. Retreat. Enter York, Richard Plantagenet, Warwick, and Soldiers, with Drum and Colours.

York. Of *Salisbury*, who can report of him?
That Winter lion, who in rage forgets

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Aged contusions and all ⁷ brush of time;
And, like a ⁸ Gallant in the brow of youth,
Repairs him with occasion. This happy day
Is not itself, nor have we won one foot,
If *Salisbury* be lost.

R. Plan. My noble father,
Three times to day I help him to his horse,
* Three times bestrid him; thrice I led him off,
Persuaded him from any further act:
But still, where danger was, still there I met him;
And, like rich Hangings in a homely house,
So was his Will in his old feeble body.
But noble as he is, look, where he comes.

Enter Salisbury.

Sal. Now, by my sword, well hast thou fought
day;
By th' Mass, so did we all. I thank you, *Richard*;
God knows, how long it is I have to live,
And it hath pleas'd him, that three times to day
You have defended me from imminent death.
—Well, Lords, we have not got That which we have
*Tis not enough our foes are this time fled,
Being opposites of such repairing nature.

York. I know, our safety is to follow them;
For, as I hear, the King is fled to *London*,
To call a present Court of Parliament.
Let us pursue him, ere the Writs go forth.
What says Lord *Warwick*, shall we after them?

War. After them! nay, before them, if we can.

⁷ *Brush of time.*] Read *bruise*
of time. *WARBURTON.*

⁸ *Gallant in the brow of youth.*] The *brow of youth* is an expression not very easily explained. I read *the blow of youth*. The

blossom, the spring.

* *Three times bestrid* &
That is, three times I saw
fallen, and, striding over
defended him till he recover

KING HENRY VI.

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Now by my hand, Lords, 'twas a glorious day,
St. Alban's battle won by famous *York*,
 Shall be eterniz'd in all age to come.
 Sound drum and trumpets, and to *London* all,
 And more such days as these to us befall! [*Exeunt.*]

Of this play, and the next; a very imperfect copy was published

- I. By *W. W.* for *Thomas Millington*. Quarto. 1600.
- II. For *T. P.* without date. I have the II.
- III. Folio 1623, which is undoubtedly the genuine copy of all the three parts.



THE
THIRD PART
OF
HENRY VI.

With the DEATH of the
DUKE of *YORK.*

Dramatis Personæ.

KING Henry VI.

Edward, Son to the King, and Prince of Wales.

Duke of Somerset,

Earl of Northumberland,

Earl of Oxford,

Earl of Exeter,

Earl of Westmorland,

Lord Clifford,

} *Lords of K. Henry's side.*

Earl of Richmond, a Youth, afterwards K. Henry VII.

Richard, Duke of York.

Edward, eldest Son to the Duke of York, afterwards King Edward IV.

George, Duke of Clarence, second Son to the D. of York.

Richard, Duke of Gloucester, third Son to the Duke of York, afterwards King Richard III.

Edmund, E. of Rutland, youngest Son to the D. of York.

Duke of Norfolk,

Marquis of Montague,

Earl of Warwick,

Earl of Salisbury,

Earl of Pembroke,

Lord Hastings,

Lord Stafford,

} *of the Duke of York's Party.*

Sir John Mortimer,

Sir Hugh Mortimer,

} *Uncles to the Duke of York.*

Sir William Stanley, afterwards Earl of Derby.

Lord Rivers, Brother to the Lady Gray.

Sir John Montgomery, Lieutenant of the Tower, Mayor of Coventry.

Mayor and Aldermen of York. Somerville.

Humphry and Sinklo, two Huntsmen.

Lewis King of France. Bourbon, Admiral of France,

Queen Margaret. Bona, Sister to the French King.

Lady Gray, Widow of Sir John Gray, afterwards Queen to Edward IV.

Soldiers and other Attendants on K. Henry and K. Edward.

In Part of the Third Act, the SCENE is laid in France; during all the rest of the Play, in England.

King *H E N R Y* VI.

ACT I. SCENE I.

L O N D O N.

Alarm. Enter Duke of York, Edward, Richard, Norfolk, Montague, Warwick, and Soldiers.

WARWICK.

I Wonder, how the King escap'd our hands! *York.* While we pursu'd the horsemen of the north,
He slyly stole away and left his men;

The third part.] First printed under the title of the true tragedy of Richard Duke of York, and the good King Henry the sixth, in the second part of the Contention between York and Lancaster, 1590.

POPE.

The Third Part of K. Henry VI.] The action of this Play (which was at first printed under this Title, The true Tragedy of Richard Duke of York, and the good K. Henry VIth: or, the Second Part of the Contention of York and Lancaster) opens just after the first Battle at St. Albans,

wherein the York Faction carried the day; and closes with the Murder of K. Henry VI. and the Birth of Prince Edward, afterwards King Edward V. So that this History takes in the Space of full sixteen Years. THEOBALD.

I wonder how the King—] This play is only divided from the former for the convenience of exhibition; for the series of action is continued without interruption, nor are any two scenes of any play more closely connected than the first scene of this play with the last of the former.

THE THIRD PART OF

Whereat the great Lord of *Northumberland*,
 Whose warlike ears could never brook retreat,
 Chear'd up the drooping army; and himself,
 Lord *Clifford*, and Lord *Stafford*, all a-breast,
 Charg'd our main battles front; and, breaking in,
 Were by the swords of common soldiers slain.

Edw. Lord *Stafford's* father, Duke of *Buckingham*,
 Is either slain or wounded dang'rously.

I cleft his beaver with a downright blow:
 That this is true, father, behold his blood.

Mount. And, brother, here's the Earl of *Wiltshire's*
 blood;

Whom I encounter'd, as the battles join'd.

Rich. Speak thou for me, and tell them what I
 did.——

[*Throwing down the Duke of Somerset's Head.*]

York. *Richard* hath best deserv'd of all my Sons:
 Is his Grace dead, my Lord of *Somerset*?

Norf. Such Hope have all the Line of *John* of
Gaunt!

Rich. Thus do I hope to shake King *Henry's* head,

War. And so do I. Victorious Prince of *York*,
 Before I see thee seated in that Throne,
 Which now the House of *Lancaster* usurps,
 I vow by heav'n, these eyes shall never close,
 This is the Palace of that fearful King,
 And this the regal Seat; possess it, *York*;
 For this is thine, and not King *Henry's* heirs'.

York. Assist me then, sweet *Warwick*, and I will;
 For hither we have broken in by force.

Norf. We'll all assist you; he, that flies, shall die.

York. Thanks, gentle *Norfolk*; stay by me, my
 Lords,

And, soldiers, stay and lodge by me this night.

[*They go up.*]

War. And when the King comes, offer him no
 violence;

Unless he seek to thrust you out by force.

York. The Queen this day here holds her Parliament,
But little thinks we shall be of her Council ;
By words or blows here let us win our Right.

Rich. Arm'd as we are, let's stay within this house.

War. The bloody Parliament shall this be call'd,
Unless *Plantagenet*, Duke of *York*, be King ;
And bashful *Henry* depos'd ; whose cowardise
Hath made us By-words to our enemies.

York. Then leave me not ; my Lords, be resolute ;
I mean to take possession of my Right.

War. Neither the King, nor he that loves him best,
The proudest he that holds up *Lancaster*,
Dares stir a wing, if *Warwick* shake his bells. *

I'll plant *Plantagenet* ; root him up, who dare :
Resolve thee, *Richard* ; claim the *English* Crown.

[*Warwick leads York to the throne, who seats him,*

S C E N E II.

Enter King Henry, Clifford, Northumberland, Westmorland, Exeter, and others, at the further end of the stage.

K. Henry. My Lords, look where the sturdy Rebel
sits,

Ev'n in the chair of State ; belike, he means
Back'd by the Power of *Warwick*, that false Peer,
T'aspire unto the Crown, and reign as King.
Earl of *Northumberland*, he slew thy father ;
And thine, Lord *Clifford* ; and you vow'd revenge
On him, his sons, his fav'rites, and his friends.

North. If I be not, heav'ns be reveng'd on me !

Clif. The hope thereof makes *Clifford* mourn in steel.

West. What, shall we suffer this ? let's pluck him
down ;

My heart for anger burns, I cannot brook it.

* —if *Warwick shake his bells.*] The allusion is to *conny*. The hawks had sometimes little bells hung upon them, perhaps to *dare* the birds ; that is, to fright them from rising.

K. Henry.

THE THIRD PART OF

K. Henry. Be patient, gentle Earl of *Westmorland*.

Clif. Patience is for poltroons, and such is he:
He durst not sit there, had your father liv'd.
My gracious Lord, here in the Parliament
Let us assail the Family of *York*.

North. Well hast thou spoken, Cousin, be it so.

K. Henry. Ah! know you not, the City favours
them,

And they have troops of soldiers at their beck?

Exe. But when the Duke is slain they'll quickly fly.

K. Henry. Far be the thought of this from *Henry's*
heart,

To make a Shambles of the Parliament-house.
Cousin of *Exeter*, frowns, words and threats,
Shall be the war that *Henry* means to use.

[*They advance to the Duke.*]

Thou factious Duke of *York*, descend my Throne;
And kneel for grace and mercy at my feet.
I am thy Sovereign.

York. Thou'rt deceiv'd, I'm thine.

Exe. For shame come down: he made thee Duke
of *York*.

York. 'Twas my inheritance, as the Kingdom is.

Exe. Thy father was a traitor to the crown.

War. Exeter, thou art a traitor to the crown,
In following this usurping *Henry*.

Clif. Whom should he follow, but his natural King?

War. True, *Clifford*; and that's *Richard* Duke of
York.

K. Henry. And shall I stand, and thou sit in my
Throne?

York. It must and shall be so.—Content thyself.

War. Be Duke of *Lancaster*, let him be King.

West. He is both King, and Duke of *Lancaster*;
And that the Lord of *Westmorland* shall maintain.

War. And *Warwick* shall disprove it. You forget,
That we are those which chas'd you from the field,
And slew your fathers, and with Colours spread

March'd

March'd through the city to the Palace-gates.

Norib. No, *Warwick*, I remember it to my grief,
And, by his soul, thou and thy House shall rue it.

West. Plantagenet, of thee and these thy sons,
Thy kinsmen and thy friends, I'll have more lives,
Than drops of blood were in my father's veins.

Clif. Urge it no more; lest that, instead of words,
I send thee, *Wawick*, such a messenger
As shall revenge his death before I stir.

War. Poor *Clifford*! how I scorn his worthless threats.

York. Will you, we shew our Title to the Crown?
If not, our swords shall plead it in the field.

K. Henry. What Title hast thou, traitor, to the
crown?

Thy father was, as thou art, Duke of *York*;
Thy grandfather *Roger Mortimer*, Earl of *March*.

* I am the son of *Henry* the Fifth,
Who made the Dauphin and the *French* to stoop,
And seiz'd upon their towns and provinces.

War. Talk not of *France*, sith thou hast lost it all.

K. Henry. The Lord Protector lost it, and not I;
When I was crown'd I was but nine months old.

Rich. You are old enough now, and yet, methinks,
you lose. —

Father, tear the Crown from the Usurper's head.

Edw. Sweet father, do so; set it on your head.

Mont. Good brother, as thou lov'st and honour'st arms,
Let's fight it out, and not stand cavilling thus.

Rich. Sound drums and trumpets, and the King will fly.

York. Sons, peace.

K. Henry. Peace thou, and give King *Henry* leave
to speak.

War. *Plantagenet* shall speak first; hear him, Lords,
And be you silent and attentive too,
For he that interrupts him shall not live.

* I am the son of *Henry the* port of his son. The name of
fifth.] The military merit *Henry* the fifth dispersed the fol-
of *Henry* the fifth is the sole sup- lowers of *Cade*.

K. Henry. Think'st thou that I will leave my kingly throne,

Wherein my grandfire and my father sat?

No, first shall war unpeople this my realm,

Ay, and their Colours often borne in *France*,

And now in *England* to our heart's great sorrow,

Shall be my winding sheet.—Why faint you, Lords?

My Title's good, and better far than his.

War. But prove it, *Henry*, and thou shalt be King.

K. Henry. *Henry* the Fourth by conquest got the crown.

York. 'Twas by Rebellion against his King.

K. Henry. I know not what to say, my Title's weak:

Tell me, may not a King adopt an heir?

York. What then?

K. Henry. And if he may, then am I lawful King:

For *Richard*, in the view of many Lords,

Resign'd the Crown to *Henry* the Fourth;

Whose heir my father was, and I am his.

York. He rose against him, being his Sovereign,
And made him to resign his Crown perforce.

War. Suppose, my Lords, he did it unconstrain'd,

* Think you, 'twere prejudicial to his Crown?

Exe. No, for he could not so resign his Crown,
But that the next heir should succeed and reign.

K. Henry. Art thou against us, Duke of *Exeter*?

Exe. His is the Right, and therefore pardon me.

York. Why whisper you, my Lords, and answer not?

Exe. My conscience tells me, he is lawful King.

K. Henry. All will revolt from me, and turn to him.

North. *Plantagenet*, for all the Claim thou lay'st,
Think not, that *Henry* shall be so depos'd.

War. Depos'd he shall be, in despite of thee.

* Think you, 'twere prejudicial to his Crown?] The phrase prejudicial to his Crown, if it be right, must mean, detrimental to the general rights of hereditary royalty; but I rather think that the transcriber's eye caught crown from the line below, and that we should read prejudicial to his son, so his next heir.

North.

North. Thou art deceiv'd, 'tis not thy southern Power
Of *Essex, Norfolk, Suffolk*, nor of *Kent*,
Which makes thee thus presumptuous and proud,
an set the Duke up in despite of me.

Clif. King *Henry*, be thy Title right or wrong,
and *Clifford* vows to fight in thy defence;
lay that ground gape, and swallow me alive,
Where I shall kneel to him, that slew my father!

K. Henry. Oh *Clifford*, how thy words revive my
heart!

York. *Henry* of *Lancaster*, resign thy Crown:
What mutter you, or what conspire you, Lords?

War. Do right unto this princely Duke of *York*,
Or I will fill this House with armed men;
And, o'er the Chair of State, where now he sits,
Write up his title with usurping blood.

[*He stamps with his foot, and the soldiers shew themselves.*]

K. Henry. My Lord of *Warwick*, hear me but one
word,

Let me but reign in Quiet while I live.

York. Confirm the Crown to me and to mine heirs,
And thou shalt reign in quiet while thou liv'st.

K. Henry. I am content. *Richard Plantagenet*,
Enjoy the Kingdom after my decease.

Clif. What wrong is this unto the Prince your son?

War. What good is this to *England* and himself?

West. Base, fearful and despairing *Henry*!

Clif. How hast thou injur'd both thyself and us!

West. I cannot stay to hear these articles.

North. Nor I.

Clif. Come Cousin, let us tell the Queen these news.

West. Farewel, faint-hearted and degen'rate King,
In whose cold blood no spark of honour 'bides.

North. Be thou a prey unto the House of *York*;
And die in bands for this unmanly deed!——

Clif. In dreadful war may'st thou be overcome,
Or live in peace abandon'd and despis'd!——

[*Exeunt* Nor. Clif. Westm.

SCENE

THE THIRD PART OF S C E N E III.

War. Turn this way, *Henry*, and regard them not.
Exe. * They seek revenge, and therefore will not yield.

K. Henry. Ah, *Exeter*!

War. Why should you sigh, my Lord?

K. Henry. Not for myself, Lord *Warwick*, but my son,

Whom I unnaturally shall disinheret.

But be it as it may, I here entail

The Crown to thee, and to thine heirs for ever;

Conditionally, that here thou take an oath

To cease this Civil War; and, whilst I live,

To honour me as thy King and Sovereign,

Neither by treason nor hostility

To seek to put me down, and reign thyself.

York. This oath I willingly take, and will perform.

War. Long live King *Henry*! *Plantagenet*, embrace him.

K. Henry. And long live thou, and these thy forward sons!

York. Now *York* and *Lancaster* are reconcil'd.

Exe. Accurst be he, that seeks to make them foes!

[*Sonet. Here they come down.*]

York. Farewel, my gracious Lord, I'll to my Castle.

War. And I'll keep *London* with my soldiers.

Norf. And I to *Norfolk* with my followers.

Mont. And I unto the sea, from whence I came.

[*Exeunt York, Warwick, Norfolk and Montague.*]

K. Henry. And I with grief and sorrow to the Court.

Enter the Queen and the Prince of Wales.

Exe. Here comes the Queen, whose looks bewray her anger.

I'll steal away.

K. Henry. So, *Exeter*, will I.

[*Going.*]

* *They seek revenge.*] They go away not because they doubt the justice of this determination, but because they have been con-

quered, and seek to be revenged. They are not influenced by principle, but passion.

Queen.

KING HENRY VI. 127

Queen. Nay, go not from me; I will follow thee—

K. Henry. Be patient, gentle Queen, and I will stay.

Queen. Who can be patient in such extremes?

O, wretched man! would I had dy'd a maid,

and never seen thee, never borne thee son,

seeing thou hast prov'd so unnatural a father.

Alas! he deserv'd to lose his birth-right thus?

Hadst thou but lov'd him half so well as I,

I felt that pain which I did for him once,

I nourish'd him, as I did with my blood;

thou wouldst have left thy dearest heart-blood there,

rather than made that savage Duke thine heir,

and disinherited thine only son.

Prince. Father, you cannot disinherit me:

you be King, why should not I succeed?

K. Henry. Pardon me, *Marg'ret*; pardon me, sweet

son;

the Earl of *Warwick* and the Duke enforc'd me.

Queen. Enforc'd thee? art thou King, and wilt be forc'd?

Shame to hear thee speak. Ah, tim'rous wretch!

thou hast undone thyself, thy son, and me;

and given unto the House of *York* such head

as thou shalt reign but by their sufferance.

To entail him and's heirs unto the Crown,

What is it but to make thy Sepulchre,

and creep into it far before thy time?

Warwick is Chancellor, and the Lord of *Calais*;

the *Faulconbridge* commands the narrow Seas;

the Duke is made Protector of the Realm;

and yet shalt thou be safe?—such safety finds

the trembling lamb, environed with wolves.

Had I been there, which am a silly woman,

the soldiers should have toss'd me on their pikes,

before I would have granted to that Act.

* *What is it but to make thy Sepulchre.*] The Queen's remark is founded on a position long received among politicians, that the loss of a King's power is soon followed by loss of life.

But

But thou prefer'st thy life before thine honour:
 And, seeing thou dost, I here divorce myself
 Both from thy table, *Henry*, and thy bed;
 Until that Act of Parliament be repealed,
 Whereby my son is disinherited.

The northern Lords, that have forsworn thy Colours,
 Will follow mine, if once they see them spread;
 And spread they shall be, to thy foul disgrace,
 And utter ruin of the House of *York*.

Thus I do leave thee; come, Son, let's away;
 Our army's ready; come, we'll after them.

K. Henry. Stay, gentle *Margaret*, and hear me speak.

Queen. Thou hast spoke too much already; get thee gone.

K. Henry. Gentle son *Edward*, thou wilt stay with me?

Queen. Ay, to be murder'd by his enemies.—

Prince. When I return with victory from the field,
 I'll see your Grace; till then I'll follow her.

Queen. Come, son, away; we may not linger thus.

[*Exeunt Queen and Prince*.]

K. Henry. Poor *Queen*, how love to me and to her son
 Hath made her break out into terms of rage!
 Reveng'd may she be on that hateful Duke,
 Whose haughty spirit, winged with desire,
 Will coast my crown; and, like an empty eagle,
 Tire on the flesh of me and of my son!

—The loss of * those three Lords torments my heart;
 I'll write unto them, and intreat them fair;

—Come, Cousin, you shall be the messenger.

Exe. And, as I hope, shall reconcile them all.

[*Exeunt*.]

* *Whose haughty spirit, winged
 with desire,
 Will coast my crown; and, like
 an empty eagle,
 Tire on the flesh———*] Read
 COAST, i. e. hover over it.

WARBURTON.

To tire is to fasten, to fix the
 talons, from the French tier.

* *Those three Lords*] That is,
 of Northumberland, Westmoreland,
 and Clifford, who had left him
 in disgust.

SCENE

SCENE IV.

comes to Sandal-Castle, near Wakefield, in Yorkshire.

Enter Richard, Edward, and Montague.

BROTHER, though I be youngest, give me leave.

Edw. No, I can better play the orator.

Mont. But I have reasons strong and forcible.

Enter the Duke of York.

Yrk. Why how now sons and brother, at a strife?
What is your quarrel? how began it first?

Edw. No quarrel, but a sweet contention.⁶

Yrk. About what?

Edw. About that which concerns your Grace and us;
Crown of *England*, father; which is yours:

Yrk. Mine, boy? not 'till King *Henry* be dead.

Edw. Your Right depends not on his life or death.

Edw. Now you are heir, therefore enjoy it now:
Living th' House of *Lancaster* leave to breathe,
I'll out-run you, father, in the end.

Yrk. I took an oath that he should quietly reign.

Edw. But for a Kingdom any oath may be broken:
I'll break a thousand oaths to reign one year.

Edw. No, God forbid, your Grace should be forsworn.

Yrk. I shall be if I claim by open war.

Edw. I'll prove the contrary, if you'll hear me speak.

Yrk. Thou can'st not, son; it is impossible.

[*quarrel, but a slight Contention.*] Thus the Players, in their edition; who did understand, I presume, the sense of the epithet in the old play, which I have restor'd;

L. V.

— *sweet Contention.* i. e. the Argument of their Dispute was upon a grateful Topic; the Question of their Father's immediate Right to the Crown.

K

THEOBALD.

Rib.

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Rich. An oath is of no moment,⁷ being not too
Before a true and lawful magistrate;
That hath authority o'er him that swears.

Henry had none; but did usurp the place.
Then, seeing 'twas he that made you to depose,
Your oath, my Lord, is vain and frivolous;
Therefore, to arms. And, father, do but think
How sweet a thing it is to wear a crown;
Within whose circuit is *Elysium*,
And all that Poets feign of bliss and joy.
Why do we linger thus? I cannot rest,
Until the white Rose that I wear be dy'd
Even in the lukewarm blood of *Henry's* heart.

York. Richard, enough. I will be King, or die
Brother, thou shalt to *London* presently,
And whet on *Warwick* to this enterprize.
Thou, *Richard*, shalt to th' Duke of *Norfolk* go,
And tell him privily of our intent.
You, *Edward*, shall unto my Lord *Cobham*,
With whom the *Kentishmen* will willingly rise.
In them I trust; for they are soldiers,
Wealthy and courteous, liberal, full of spirit.⁸

⁷ *An oath is of no moment.*—] The obligation of an oath is here eluded by very despicable sophistry. A lawful magistrate alone has the power to exact an oath, but the oath derives no part of its force from the magistrate. The plea against the obligation of an oath obliging to maintain an usurper, taken from the unlawfulness of the oath itself in the foregoing play, was rational and just.

⁸ In former Editions :

Witty, courteous, liberal, full
of Spirit.] What a blessed
harmonious Line have the Edi-
tors given us, and what a pro-
mising Epithet, in *York's* behalf,

from the *Kentishmen* bei-
witty; I can't be so p-
however, to my own Coun-
to let this Compliment pa-
make no Doubt to read,

— for they are Sol-
Wealthy and courteous,
full of Spirit.

Now these five Character-
answer to Lord *Say's* Desc-
of them in the preceding
Kent in the commentaries
writ,

Is term'd the civil'st Pla-
this isle;

The people liberal, valiant,
wealthy. Thus

This is a conjecture
little import.

While you are thus employ'd, what resteth more
But that I seek occasion how to rise,
And yet the king not privy to my drift,
Nor any of the house of *Lancaster*?

Enter Messenger.

But stay, what news? why com'st thou in such post?

Gab. * The Queen, with all the northern Earls and Lords,

Intend here to besiege you in your castle.
She is hard by with twenty thousand men;
And therefore fortify your Hold, my Lord.

York. Ay,—with my sword. What! think'st thou
that we fear them?

Edward and *Richard* you shall stay with me;
My brother *Montague* shall post to *London*,
Let noble *Warwick*, *Cobham*, and the rest,
Whom we have left protectors of the King,
With powerful policy strengthen themselves,
And trust not simple *Henry* nor his oaths.

Mont. Brother, I go; I'll win them, fear it not,
And thus most humbly I do take my leave.

[*Exit Montague.*]

Enter Sir John Mortimer and Sir Hugh Mortimer.

York. Sir *John* and Sir *Hugh Mortimer*, mine uncles,
You are come to *Sandal* in a happy hour.
The army of the Queen means to besiege us.

Sir John. She shall not need, we'll meet her in the field.

York. What with five thousand men?

Rich. Ay, with five hundred, father, for a need.

* *The Queen, with all, &c.*] I know not whether the authour intended any moral instruction, but he that reads this has a striking admonition against that precipitancy by which men often use unlawful means to do that which a little delay would put honestly in their power. Had *York* staid but a few moments he had saved his cause from the stain of perjury.

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A woman's General; what should we fear?

[*A march afar off*

Edw. I hear their drums: let's set our men in order,
And issue forth, and bid them battle strait.

York. Five men to twenty! Though the odds be great,
I doubt not, Uncle, of our victory.

Many a battle have I won in *France*,

When as the enemy hath been ten to one;

Why should I not now have the like success?

[*Alarm. Exit.*

S C E N E V.

A Field of Battle between Sandal-Castle and Wakefield.

Enter Rutland and his Tutor.

Rut. **A** H, whither shall I fly to 'scape their hands?
Ah, Tutor, look where bloody *Clifford*
comes.

Enter Clifford and Soldiers.

Clif. Chaplain, away! thy priesthood saves thy life,
As for the Brat of this accursed Duke,
Whose father slew my father, he shall die.

Tutor. And I, my Lord, will bear him company.

Clif. Soldiers, away, and drag him hence perforce.

Tutor. Ah! *Clifford*, murder not this innocent child,
Lest thou be hated both of God and man.

[*Exit, dragg'd off.*

Clif. How now? is he dead already? or, is't fear
That makes him close his eyes? I'll open them.

Rut. * So looks the pent-up Lion o'er the wretch
That trembles under his devouring paws;
And so he walks insulting o'er his prey,
And so he comes to rend his limbs asunder.
Ah, gentle *Clifford*, kill me with thy sword,
And not with such a cruel threatening look.

* So looks the pent-up lion. } That is, the lion that hath been long
confined without food, and is let out to devour a man condemned.

Sweet

et *Clifford*, hear me speak before I die ;
 n too mean a Subject of thy wrath,
 thou reveng'd on men, and let me live.
Clif. In vain thou speak'st, poor boy ; my father's
 blood

h stopt the passage where thy words should enter.

ut. Then let my father's blood open't again ;
 is a man, and, *Clifford*, cope with him.

Clif. Had I thy brethren here, their lives and thine
 e not Revenge sufficient for me.

if I digg'd up thy forefathers' graves,
 hung their rotten coffins up in chains,
 uld not slake mine ire, nor ease my heart.
 sight of any of the House of *York*
 a Fury to torment my soul,
 till I root out their accursed Line,
 leave not one alive, I live in hell.

efore——— [*Lifting his band.*

ut. O let me pray before I take my death.

o thee I pray———sweet *Clifford*, pity me.

Clif. Such pity as my rapier's point affords.

ut. I never did thee harm ; why wilt thou slay me ?

Clif. Thy father hath.

ut. But 'twas, ere I was born.

u hast one son, for his sake pity me ;

in revenge thereof, sith God is just,

as miserably slain as I.

let me live in prison all my days,

when I give occasion of offence,

let me die, for now thou hast no cause.

Clif. No cause !

father slew my father, therefore die.

[*Clif. stabs him.*

ut. *Dii faciant, laudis summa sit ista tue !* [*Dies.*

Clif. *Plantagenet*, I come, *Plantagenet* !

this thy son's blood cleaving to my blade

rust upon my weapon, till thy blood,

geal'd with this, do make me wipe off both. [*Exit.*

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S C E N E VI.

Alarm. Enter Richard Duke of York.

York. The army of the Queen hath got the field;
 My Uncles both are slain in rescuing me,
 And all my Followers to the eager foe
 Turn Back, and fly like ships before the wind,
 Or lambs pursu'd by hunger-starv'd wolves.
 My Sons, God knows, what hath bechanced them,
 But this I know, they have demean'd themselves
 Like men born to Renown, by life or death.
 Three times did *Richard* make a lane to me,
 And thrice cry'd, Courage, father! fight it out:
 And full as oft came *Edward* to my side,
 With purple falchion painted to the hilt
 In blood of those, that had encounter'd him:
 And when the hardiest warriors did retire,
Richard cry'd, Charge! and give no foot of ground
 And cry'd A Crown, or else a glorious tomb,
 A Scepter or an earthy Sepulchre.
 With this we charg'd again; but out! alas,
 ° We bodg'd again, as I have seen a Swan
 With bootless labour swim against the tide,
 And spend her strength with over-matching waves,
 [A short alarm with
 Ah! hark, the fatal followers do pursue,
 And I am faint, and cannot fly their fury,
 And were I strong I would not shun their fury.
 The sands are number'd, that make up my life;
 Here must I stay, and here my life must end.

° *We bodg'd again.*—] Of place. I suppose it is only
 this word the meaning is plain, word *budged*, perhaps misspelled.
 but I never say it in any other

Enter the Queen, Clifford, Northumberland, the Prince of Wales, and Soldiers.

Come, bloody *Clifford*, rough *Northumberland*,
I dare your quenchless fury to more Rage,
I am your Butt, and I abide your Shot.

North. Yield to our Mercy, proud *Plantagenet*.

Clif. Ay, to such Mercy as his ruthless arm
With downright payment shew'd unto my father.
Now *Pbaeton* hath tumbled from his Car,
And made an evening at the * noon-tide prick.

York. My ashes, as the Phoenix, may bring forth
A bird that will revenge upon you all,
And in that Hope I throw mines eyes to heav'n,
Scorning whate'er you can afflict me with.

Why come you not? what! multitudes and fear?

Clif. So cowards fight, when they can fly no further;
So Doves do peck the Faulcon's piercing talons;
So desp'rate thieves, all hopeless of their lives,
Breathe out invectives 'gainst the officers.

York. Oh *Clifford*, but bethink thee once again,
And in thy thought o'er-run my former time;
And, if thou canst for blushing, view this face,
And bite thy tongue that slanders him with cowardise,
Whose frown hath made thee faint, and fly ere this.

Clif. I will not bandy with thee word for word.
But buckle with thee blows twice two for one. [*Draves.*

Queen. Hold, valiant *Clifford*; for a thousand causes
I would prolong a while the traitor's life.

—Wrath makes him deaf. Speak thou, *Northumberland*.

North. Hold, *Clifford*; do not honour him so much,
To prick thy finger, though to wound his heart.
What valour were it, when a cur doth grin,
For one to thrust his hand betw. n his teeth,
When he might spurn him with his foot away?
'It is war's prize to take all 'vantages;

* Noon-tide prick, or noon-tide point on the dial.

¹ It is war's PRIZE—] Read PRAISE, WAREBURTON.

I think the old reading right, which means, that all *advantages* are in war lawful prize; that is, may be lawfully taken and used.

And ten to one is no impeach of valour.

[*They lay hands on York, who struggles.*

Clif. Ay, ay, so strives the woodcock with the gin.

North. So doth the cony struggle in the net.

[*York is taken Prisoner.*

York. So triumph thieves upon their conquer'd booty;
So true men yield with robbers so o'er-matcht.

North. What would your Grace have done unto him
now?

Queen. Brave warriors, *Clifford* and *Northumberland*,
Come make him stand upon this mole-hill here;
That raught at mountains with out-stretched arms,
Yet parted but the shadow with his hand.

—What! was it you that would be *England's King*?

Was't you, that revell'd in our Parliament,

And made a preachment of your high Descent?

Where are your mess of sons to back you now,

The wanton *Edward*, and the lusty *George*!

And where's that valiant crook-back'd Prodigy,

Dicky your boy, that with his grumbling voice

Was wont to cheer his Dad in mutinies?

Or, with the rest, where is your darling *Rutland*?

Look *York*; I stained * this napkin with the blood,

That valiant *Clifford* with his rapier's point

Made issue from the bosom of the boy:

And if thine eyes can water for his death,

I give thee this to dry thy cheeks withal.

Alas! poor *York*; but that I hate thee deadly,

I should lament thy miserable state.

I pr'ythee, grieve, to make me merry, *York*.

What, hath thy fiery heart so parcht thine Entrails,

That not a tear can fall for *Rutland's* death?

Why art thou patient, man? thou shouldst be mad;

And I, to make thee mad, do mock thee thus:

Stamp, rave and fret, that I may sing and dance.

Thou wouldst be feed, I see, to make me sport:

* *This napkin.*] A napkin is an handkerchief.

cannot speak, unless he wear a Crown.
own for *York*—and, Lords, bow low to him :
you his hands, whilst I do set it on.

[*Putting a Paper Crown on his Head.*]

Harry, Sir, now looks he like a King :
is is he that took King *Henry's* chair ;
his is he, was his adopted heir.
Now is it, that great *Plantagenet*
woud so soon, and broke his solemn oath ?
I think me, you should not be King
if King *Henry* had shook hands with death.
Will you pale your Head in *Henry's* Glory,
rob his Temples of the Diadem,
on his life, against your holy oath ?
This is a fault too too unpardonable.
With the Crown ; and with the Crown his head ;
Whilst we breathe, take time to do him dead.
That is my office, for my father's sake.
Nay, stay, let's hear the *Oraisons* he makes.
She-wolf of *France*, but worse than wolves
of *France*,
Your tongue more poisons than the adder's tooth !
How becoming is it in thy sex
To triumph, like an *Amazonian* trull,
To cheer their woes, whom fortune captivates ?
That thy face is vizor-like, unchanging,
Impudent with use of evil deeds,
To assay, proud Queen, to make thee blush.
From whence thou cam'st, of whom deriv'd,
Shame enough to shame thee, wert thou not
shameless :
Thou bears the type of King of *Naples*,
Thou the *Sicils* and *Jerusalem*,
Not so wealthy as an *English* yeoman.
What poor monarch taught thee to insult ?
Is not, nor it boots thee not, proud Queen,
That the adage must be verify'd,
That beggars, mounted, run their horse to death."
'Tis

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'Tis Beauty that doth oft make women proud ;
 But God he knows thy share thereof is small.
 'Tis virtue that doth make them most admir'd ;
 The contrary doth make thee wonder'd at.
 'Tis government that makes them seem divine ;
 The want thereof makes thee abominable.
 Thou art as opposite to every good,
 As the Antipodes are unto us,
 Or as the south to the *Septentrion*.
 Oh, tyger's heart, wrapt in a woman's hide !
 How couldst thou drain the life-blood of the child,
 To bid the father wipe his eyes withal,
 And yet be seen to wear a woman's face ?
 Women are soft, mild, pitiful, and flexible ;
 Thou stern, obdurate, flinty, rough, remorseless.
 Bidst thou me rage ? why, now thou hast thy wish.
 Wouldst thou have me weep ? why now thou hast thy will.
 For raging wind blows up incessant show'rs,
 And when the rage allays, the rain begins.
 These tears are my sweet *Rutland's* obsequies ;
 And ev'ry drop cries vengeance for his death,
 'Gainst thee, fell *Clifford*, and thee, false *French* wo-
 man.

North. Beshrew me, but his passions move me so ;
 That hardly can I check mine eyes from tears.

York. That face of his the hungry Cannibals
 Would not have touch'd, * would not have stain'd
 with blood :

But

³ 'Tis government that makes them seem divine] Govern-
 ment, in the language of that
 time, signified evenness of tem-
 per, and decency of manners.

* *Would not have stain'd the
 roses just WITH BLOOD ;*]
 So the second folio nonsensically
 reads the passage ; but the old
 quarto, and first folio editions of

better authority have it thus.

*That face of his the hungry can-
 nibals*

*Would not have touch'd, would
 not have stain'd with blood.*

And this is sense. Could any
 one now have believed that an
 editor of common understanding
 should reject this, and fallen
 upon the nonsense of a latter
 edition

ou are more inhuman, more inexorable,
 in times more than tygers of *Hyrcania*.
 ruthless Queen, a hapless father's tears,
 cloth thou dip'dst in blood of my sweet boy,
 I with tears do wash the blood away.
 thou the napkin, and go boast of this ;
 if thou tell'st the heavy story right,
 my soul, the hearers will shed tears,
 even my foes will shed fast-falling tears,
 say, " Alas, it was a piteous deed ! "

[*He gives back the handkerchief.*

e—Take the crown ; and, with the crown my
 curse.

in thy need such comfort come to thee,
 ow I reap at thy too cruel hand !

l-hearted *Clifford*, take me from the world,
 soul to heav'n, my blood upon your heads.

Rich. Had he been slaughter man to all my kin,
 ould not for my life but weep with him,
 ee how inly sorrow gripes his soul.

Queen. What, weeping ripe my Lord *Northumber-*
land ?

ik but upon the wrong he did us all,
 that will quickly dry thy melting tears.

if. Here's for my oath, here's for my father's
 death. [*Stabbing him.*

Queen. And here's to right our gentle-hearted King.
 [*Stabs him.*

Rich. Open the gate of mercy, gracious God !

soul flies through these wounds to seek out thee.

[*Dies.*

in only because it afforded
 of conjecture : And yet
Theobald will needs correct,
 just with blood, to roses juic'd
 blood, that is, change one
 lering Editor's nonsense for
 ver's. But if there ever was

any meaning in the line it was
 thus expressed,

*Would not have stain'd the roses
 just in bud.*

And this the *Oxford Editor* hath
 espoused.

WARBURTON.

Queen.

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Queen. Off with his head and set it on *York* gates;
So *York* may overlook the town of *York*. [Exeunt.]

ACT II. SCENE I.

Near Mortimer's Cross in Wales.

A March. Enter Edward, Richard, and their Power.

EDWARD.

I Wonder, how our princely father 'scap'd,
Or whether he be 'scap'd away, or no,
From *Clifford's* and *Northumberland's* pursuit?
Had he been ta'en, we should have heard the news;
Had he been slain, we should have heard the news;
Or had he 'scap'd, methinks, we should have heard
The happy tidings of his good escape.
How fares my brother? why is he so sad?

Rich. I cannot joy, until I be resolv'd
Where our right valiant father is become.
I saw him in the battle range about;
And watch'd him, how he singled *Clifford* forth;
Methought, he bore him in the thickest troop,
As doth a Lion in a herd of Neat;
Or as a bear, encompass'd round with dogs,
Who having pinch'd a few, and made them cry,
The rest stand all aloof, and bark at him.
So fared our father with his enemies,
So fled his enemies my warlike father;
'Methinks, 'tis prize enough to be his son.
See, how the morning opes her golden gates,

'Methinks 'tis PRIZE enough
to be his son.] The old quar-
to reads PRIDE, which is right,
for ambition. i. e. We need not
aim at any higher glory than this.

WARBURTON.

I believe prize is the right
word. *Richard's* sense is, though
we have missed the prize for
which we fought, we have yet
an honour left that may con-
tent us.

And

and takes her farewell of the glorious sun ;
 how well resembles it the prime of youth,
 wouldst thou like a yokel prancing to his love ?

Edw. Dazzle mine eyes ? or do I see three suns ?

Rich. Three glorious suns, each one a perfect sun ;
 separated with the racking clouds,
 never'd in a pale clear-shining sky.

See, they join, embrace and seem to kiss,
 as if they vow'd some league inviolable ;

are they but one lamp, one light, one sun.

Is the heaven figures some event.

Edw. 'Tis wondrous strange, the like yet never
 heard of.

Alas, it cites us, brother, to the field ;

we the sons of brave *Plantagenet*,

one already⁷ blazing by our meeds,

bold, notwithstanding, join our lights together,
 to over-shine the earth, as this the world.

For 'er it bodes, henceforward will I bear

on my target three fair shining suns.

Rich. Nay, bear three daughters.—By your leave,

I speak it,

love the breeder better than the male.

Enter a Messenger.

What art thou, whose heavy looks foretel

some dreadful story hanging on thy tongue ?

Mess. Ah ! one that was a woful looker on,

when as the noble Duke of *York* was slain ;

his princely father, and my loving Lord.

Edw. [takes her farewell of the glorious sun.] *Aurora* takes
 me her farewell of the sun,
 and dismisses him to his dis-
 course.

blazing by our meeds.] Pl-

lustrious and shining by the ar-
 morial ensigns granted us as
 meeds of our great exploits.

It might be plausibly read,

Blazing by our deeds.

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Edw. * Oh, speak no more! for I have heard too much.

Rich Say, how he died; for I will hear it all.

Mef. Environed he was with many foes,
And stood against them as the hope of *Troy*
Against the *Greeks* that would have entred *Troy*.
But *Hercules* himself must yield to odds;
And many strokes, though with a little ax,
Hew down and fell the hardest-timber'd oak.
By many hands your father was subdu'd,
But only slaughter'd by the ireful arm
Of unrelenting *Clifford* and the Queen;
Who crown'd the gracious duke in high despight;
Laugh'd in his face; and, when with grief he wept,
The ruthless Queen gave him to dry his cheek,
A napkin steeped in the harmless blood
Of sweet young *Rutland*, by rough *Clifford* slain:
And, after many scorns, many foul taunts,
They took his head, and on the Gates of *York*
They set the same; and there it doth remain
The saddest spectacle that e'er I view'd.

Edw. Sweet Duke of *York*, our prop to lean upon,
Now thou art gone, we have no staff, no stay.
Oh *Clifford*, boist'rous *Clifford*! thou hast slain
The flower of *Europe* for his chivalry,
And treacherously hast thou vanquish'd him;
For, hand to hand, he would have vanquish'd thee.
Now my soul's palace is become a prison:
Ah, would she break from hence, that this my body
Might in the ground be closed up in rest!
For never henceforth shall I joy again,
Never, oh never, shall I see more joy.

Rich. I cannot weep; for all my body's moisture
Scarce serves to quench my furnace-burning heart;
Nor can my tongue unload my heart's great burden,

* Oh speak no more! The are well distinguished by their
generous tenderness of *Edward*, different reception of their
and savage fortitude of *Richard*, ther's death.

For self-same wind that I should speak withal,
 Is kindling coals that fire up all my breast;
 And burn me up with flames, that tears would quench.
 To weep is to make less the depth of grief:
 Tears then for babes; blows and revenge for me!
Richard, I bear thy name; I'll venge thy death;
 Or die renowned by attempting it.

Edw. His name that valiant Duke hath left with thee:
 His dukedom and his chair with me is left.

Rich. If thou be that princely Eagle's bird,
 Shew thy descent, by gazing 'gainst the sun,
 For chair and dukedom's throne and kingdom say,
 Either that's thine, or else thou wert not his.

S C E N E II.

*March. Enter Warwick, Marquis of Montague,
 and their army.*

War. How now, fair Lords? what fare? what news
 abroad?

Rich. Great Lord of *Warwick*, if we should recount
 Our baleful news, and at each word's deliv'rance
 Stab poniards in our flesh till all were told;
 The words would add more anguish than the wounds.
 O valiant Lord, the Duke of *York* is slain.

Edw. O *Warwick*! *Warwick*! That *Plantagenet*,
 Which held thee dearly as his soul's redemption,
 Is by the stern Lord *Clifford* done to death.

War. Ten days ago I drown'd these news in tears;
 And now, to add more measure to your woes,
 I come to tell you things sith then befalln.
 After the bloody fray at *Wakefield* fought,
 Where your brave father breath'd his latest gasp,
 Tidings as swiftly as the post could run,
 Were brought me of your loss and his depart.
 I then in *London*, keeper of the King,
 Muster'd my Soldiers, gather'd flocks of friends,
 March'd towards *St. Albans* t'intercept the Queen,
 Bear-

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Bearing the King in my behalf along ;
 For by my scouts I was advertised
 That she was coming with a full intent
 To dash our late decree in parliament,
 Touching King *Henry's* oath, and your succession.
 Short tale to make, we at St. *Alban's* met,
 Our battles join'd, and both sides fiercely fought :
 But whether 'twas the coldness of the King,
 Who look'd full gently on his warlike Queen,
 That robb'd my soldiers of their hated spleen ;
 Or whether 'twas report of her success,
 Or more than common fear of *Clifford's* rigour,
 Who thunders to his captives blood and death,
 I cannot judge ; but to conclude with truth,
 Their weapons, like to lightning, came and went ;
 Our soldiers, * like the night-owl's lazy flight,
 Or like a lazy thresher with a flail,
 Fell gently down, as if they struck their friends.
 I cheer'd them up with justice of our cause,
 With promise of high pay and great reward ;
 But all in vain, they had no heart to fight,
 And we, in them no hope to win the day ;
 So that we fled ; the King, unto the Queen ;
 Lord *George* your brother, *Norfolk* and myself,
 In haste, post-haste, are come to join with you ;
 For in the Marches here we heard you were,
 Making another head to fight again.

Edw. Where is the Duke of *Norfolk*, gentle *Warwick* ?

And when came *George* from *Burgundy* to *England* ?

War. Some six miles off the Duke is with his power ;
 And for your brother, he was lately sent
 From your kind aunt, Dutchess of *Burgundy*,
 With aid of soldiers to this needful war.

Rich. 'Twas odds, belike, when valiant *Warwick* fled ;

* *Like the night-owl's lazy flight.*] This image is not very congruous to the subject, nor was it necessary to the comparison, which is happily enough compleated by the thresher.

Hast have I heard his praises in pursuit,
but ne'er, till now, his scandal of retire.

War. Nor now my scandal, *Richard*, dost thou hear,
or thou shalt know, this strong right hand of mine
unpluck the Diadem from faint *Henry's* head,
and wring the awful scepter from his fist,
ere he as famous and as bold in war,
he is fam'd for mildness, peace and prayer.

Rich. I know it well, Lord *Warwick*, blame me not,
his love, I bear thy glories, makes me speak.
In this troublous time what's to be done?

Shall we go throw away our coats of steel,
and wrap our bodies in black mourning gowns,
imb'ring our *Ave Marias* with our beads?

Shall we on the helmets of our foes
sell our devotion with revengeful arms?
For the last, say, *ay*; and to it, Lords.

War. Why, therefore *Warwick* came to seek you out;
and therefore comes my brother *Montague*.

Tend me, Lords. The proud insulting Queen,
with *Clifford*, and the haught *Northumberland*,
and of their feather many more proud birds,
have wrought * the easy melting King, like wax:
he swore consent to your succession,
his oath inrolled in the parliament;

and now to *London* all the crew are gone;
frustrate both his oath, and what beside
they make against the house of *Lancaster*.

Their power, I think, is thirty thousand strong;
now if the help of *Norfolk* and myself,
with all the friends that thou, brave Earl of *March*,
longest the loving *Welshmen* canst procure,
will but amount to five and twenty thousand,
why, *Via!* to *London* will we march amain,
and once again bestride our foaming steeds,

* —the easy-melting King, like As red as fire, nay, then her wax
war.] So again in this must melt.
ay, of the lady *Gray*,

And once again cry, *Charge upon our foes!*
But never once again turn back, and fly.

Rich. Ay, now, methinks, I hear great *Warwick* speak :

Ne'er may he live to see a sun shine day,
That cries, retire,——if *Warwick* bid him stay.

Edw. Lord *Warwick*, on thy shoulder will I lean,
And when thou fail'st, (as God forbid the hour!)
Must *Edward* fall, which peril heaven forefend!

War. No longer Earl of *March*, but Duke of *York*,
The next degree is *England's* royal throne,
For King of *England* shalt thou be proclaim'd
In every borough as we pass along,
And he, that throws not up his cap for joy,
Shall for the fault make forfeit of his head.
King *Edward*, valiant *Richard*, *Montague*,
Stay we no longer, dreaming of renown;
But sound the trumpets, and about our task.

Rich. Then, *Clifford*, were thy heart as hard as steel,
As thou hast shewn it flinty by thy deeds,
I come to pierce it, or to give thee mine.

Edw. Then strike up, drums ; God and St. *George*
for us !

Enter a Messenger.

War. How now ? what news ?

Mes. The Duke of *Norfolk* sends you word by me,
The Queen is coming with a puissant host ;
And craves your company for speedy counsel.

War. * Why then it sorts ; brave warriors, let's
away. [*Exeunt omnes.*]

* *Why then it sorts.*] Why then things are as they should be.

SCENE

KING HENRY VI.

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SCENE III.

Changes to York.

Enter King Henry, the Queen, Clifford, Northumberland, and the Prince of Wales, with Drums and Trumpets.

Queen. **W** Elcome, my Lord, to this brave town of *York.*

Yonder's the head of that arch-enemy,
That sought to be encompass't with your crown.
Doth not the object cheer your heart, my Lord?

K. Henry. Ay, as the rocks cheer them, that fear
their wreck.

To see this sight, it irks my very soul.
—With hold revenge, dear God; 'tis not my fault,
Nor wittingly have I infring'd my vow.

Clif. My gracious Liege, this too much lenity
And harmful pity must be laid aside.

To whom do Lions cast their gentle looks?
Not to the beast, that would usurp their den.
Whose hand is that the forest bear doth lick?
Not his, that spoils her young before her face.
Who 'scapes the lurking serpent's mortal sting?
Not he, that sets his foot upon her back.

The smallest worm will turn being trodden on;
And doves will peck in safeguard of their brood.

Ambitious *York* did level at thy crown;
Thou smiling, while he knit his angry brows.

He but a Duke, would have his son a King,
And raise his issue, like a loving sire,

Thou being a King, blest with a goodly son,
Didst yield consent to disinherit him,

Which argu'd thee a most unloving father.

Unreasonable creatures feed their young;

And tho' man's face be fearful to their eyes,

Yet, in protection of their tender ones,

Who hath not seen them (even with those wings,
Which sometimes they have us'd with fearful flight,
Make war with him that climb'd unto their nest,
Offering their own lives in their young's defence?
For shame, my Liege, make them your precedent;
Were it not pity, that this goodly boy
Should lose his birth-right by his father's fault,
And long hereafter say unto his child,
What my great grandfather and grandfire got,
My careless father fondly gave away!
Ah, what a shame was this! look on the boy,
And let his manly face, which promiseth
Successful fortune, steel thy melting heart
To hold thine own, and leave thine own with him.

K. Henry. Full well hath *Clifford* plaid the orator,
Inferring arguments of mighty force.
But, *Clifford*, tell me, didst thou never hear,
That things ill got had ever bad success?
And happy always was it for that son,
* Whole father for his hoarding went to hell?
I'll leave my son my virtuous deeds behind;
And 'would, my father had left me no more!
For all the rest is held at such a rate,
As brings a thousand-fold more care to keep,
Than in possession any jot of pleasure.
Ah, Cousin *York*; 'would, thy best friends did know,
How it doth grieve me that thy head is here!

Queen. My Lord, cheer up your spirits, our foes
are nigh;
And this soft courage makes your followers faint;
You promis'd knighthood to our forward son,
Unsheath your sword, and dub him presently.
Edward, kneel down.

K. Henry. *Edward Plantagenet*, arise a Knight;
And learn this lesson, draw thy sword in right.

Prince. My gracious father, by your kingly leave,
I'll draw it as Apparent to the crown,

* Alluding to a common Proverb.

And

in that quarrel use it to the death.

f. Why, that is spoken like a toward Prince.

Enter a Messenger.

ef. Royal commanders, be in readiness;
with a band of thirty thousand men,
as *Warwick*, backing of the Duke of *York*:
in the towns, as they do march along,
aims him King; and many fly to him.
traign your battle, for they are at hand.

f. I would your highness would depart the field,
Queen hath best success, when you are absent,

een. Ay, good my Lord, and leave us to our
fortune.

Henry. Why, that's my fortune too; therefore
I'll stay.

rtb. Be it with resolution then to fight.

ince. My royal father, cheer these noble Lords,
hearten those that fight in your defence.

death your sword, good father; cry, *St. George!*

S C E N E IV.

b. *Enter* Edward, Warwick, Richard, Clarence,
Norfolk, Montague, and Soldiers.

lw. Now, perjur'd *Henry*, wilt thou kneel for
grace,

set thy Diadem upon my head;
side the mortal fortune of the field?

een. Go rate thy minions, proud insulting boy.

mes it thee to be thus bold in terms

re thy sovereign and thy lawful King?

lw. I am his King, and he should bow his knee;

adopted heir by his consent;

when, his oath is broke, for, as I hear,

that are King, though he do wear the crown,

Darraign] That is, range your host, put your hosts in order.

Have caus'd him by new act of parliament
To blot out me, and put his own son in.

Clif. And reason too.

Who should succeed the father, but the son?

Rich. Are you there, butcher?—O, I cannot speak.

Clif. Ay, Crook-back, here I stand to answer thee,
Or any he the proudest of thy sort.

Rich. 'Twas you that kill'd young *Rutland*, was it not?

Clif. Ay, and old *York*, and yet not satisfy'd.

Rich. For God's sake, Lords, give signal to the fight.

War. What say'st thou, *Henry*, wilt thou yield the crown?

Queen. Why, how now, long-tongu'd *Warwick*,
dare you speak?

When you and I met at *St. Albans* last,
Your legs did better service than your hands.

War. Then 'twas my turn to fly, and now 'tis thine.

Clif. You said so much before, and yet you fled.

War. 'Twas not your valour, *Clifford*, drove me thence.

North. No, nor your manhood, that durst make you stay.

Rich. *Northumberland*, I hold thee reverently.

—Break off the parle, for scarce I can refrain
The execution of my big-swoln heart
Upon that *Clifford*, that cruel child killer.

Clif. I slew thy father, call'st thou him a child?

Rich. Ay, like a dastard and a treacherous coward,
As thou didst kill our tender brother *Rutland*;
But, ere sun-set, I'll make thee curse the deed.

K. Henry. Have done with words, my Lords, and hear me speak.

Queen. Defy them then, or else hold close thy lips.

K. Henry. I prythee, give no limits to my tongue;
I am a King, and privileg'd to speak.

Clif. My Liege, the wound, that bred this meeting
here

Can

Cannot be cur'd by words ; therefore be still.

Rich. Then, executioner, unsheath thy sword :
By him that made us all, I am resolv'd *

That *Clifford's* manhood lies upon his tongue.

Edw. Say, *Henry*, shall I have right, or no ?

A thousand men have broke their fasts to day,
That ne'er shall dine, unless thou yield the crown.

War. If thou deny, their blood upon thy head !
For *York* in justice puts his armour on.

Prince. If that be right, which *Warwick* says is
right,

There is no wrong, but every thing is right.

Rich. Whoever got thee, there thy mother stands,
For, well I wot, thou hast thy mother's tongue.

Queen. But thou art neither like thy fire nor dam,
But like a foul mis-shapen stigmatick,
Mark'd by the destinies to be avoided,
As venomous toads, or lizards' dreadful stings.

Rich. Iron of *Naples* hid with *English* gilt,
Whose father bears the title of a King,
As if a channel should be call'd the sea,
Sham'st thou not, knowing whence thou art extraught,
† To let thy tongue detect thy base-born heart ?

Edw. † A wisp of straw were worth a thousand
crowns,

To make this shameless Callat know herself.

—*Helen of Greece* was fairer far than thou,
Although thy husband may be *Menelaus* ;
And ne'er was *Agamemnon's* brother wrong'd
By that false woman, as this King by thee.
His father revell'd in the heart of *France*,
And tam'd the King, and made the Dauphin stoop,

* — *I am resolv'd*] It is my
firm persuasion ; I am no longer
in doubt.

† To let thy tongue detect] To
show thy meanness of birth by
the indecency of language with

which thou railest at my de-
formity.

† A wisp of straw.] I suppose
for an instrument of correction
that might disgrace but not hurt
her.

And had he matcht according to his State,
 He might have kept that glory to this day,
 But when he took a beggar to his bed,
 And grac'd thy poor Sire with his bridal day,
 Even then that sun-shine brew'd a show'r for him,
 That wash'd his father's fortunes forth of *France*,
 And heap'd sedition on his Crown at home.
 For what hath broach'd this tumult, but thy pride?
 Hadst thou been meek, our Title still had slept.
 And we, in pity of the gentle King,
 Had slipt our claim until another age.

Cl. But when ' we saw, our sun-shine made thy
 spring,

And that thy summer bred us no increase,
 We set the ax to thy usurping root;
 And though the edge hath something hit ourselves,
 Yet know thou, since we have begun to strike,
 We'll never leave 'till we have hewn thee down,
 Or bath'd thy Growing with our heated bloods.

Edw. And in this resolution I defy thee;
 Not willing any longer conference,
 Since thou deny'st the gentle King to speak.
 —Sound trumpets, let our bloody colours wave,
 And either Victory, or else a Grave.

Queen. Stay, *Edward*——

Edw. No, wrangling Woman, we'll no longer stay.
 These words will cost ten thousand lives this day.

[*Exeunt omnes.*]

! We saw our sun-shine made thy spring,
And that thy summer bred us no increase.] When we saw
 that by favouring thee we made
 thee grow in fortune, but that
 we received no advantage from
 thy fortune flourishing by our
 favour, we then resolved to de-
 stroy thee, and determine to try
 some other means, though our
 first efforts have failed.

S C E N E

KING HENRY VI.

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SCENE V.

ges to a Field of Battle at Ferribridge in Yorkshire.

Alarm. Excursions. Enter Warwick.

FORE-spent with toil, as runners with a race,
I lay me down a little while to breathe,
Strokes receiv'd, and many blows repaid,
Robb'd my strong-knit sinews of their strength;
Spight of spight, needs must I rest a while.

Enter Edward running.

Ed. Smile, gentle heav'n! or strike, ungentle
death!
This world frowns, and *Edward's* sun is clouded,
War. How now, my Lord, what hap? what hope
of good?

Enter Clarence.

Cl. Our hap is loss, our hope but sad despair;
Ranks are broke, and ruin follows us.
What counsel give you? whither shall we fly?
Ed. Bootless is flight, they follow us with wings;
Weak we are, and cannot shun pursuit.

Enter Richard.

Ed. Ah, *Warwick*, why hast thou withdrawn thy-
self?
My brother's blood the thirsty earth hath drunk,
Broach'd

*by Brother's Blood the thirsty
Earth hath drunk,]* This *Salisbury, Warwick's Father.*
Is, from the Variation of But this was a notorious Devia-
copies, gave me no little tion from the Truth of History.
exiry. The old 4to applies For the Earl of *Salisbury* in the
Description to the Death of Battle at *Wakefield*, wherein *Rich-*
ard Duke of York lost his Life,
was

Broach'd with the steely point of *Clifford's* lance,
 And in the very pangs of death he cry'd,
 (Like to a dismal clangor heard from far)
Warwick, revenge; brother, revenge my death.
 So underneath the belly of their steeds,
 That stain'd their fetlocks in his smoaking blood,
 The noble Gentleman gave up the ghost.

War. Then let the Earth be drunken with our blood,
 I'll kill my horse, because I will not fly.
 Why stand we like soft-hearted women here,
 Wailing our losses, whiles the foe doth rage,
 And look upon, as if the Tragedy
 Were plaid in jest by counterfeiting Actors?
 Here on my knee I vow to God above,
 I'll never pause again, never stand still,
 Till either Death hath clos'd these eyes of mine,
 Or Fortune give me measure of revenge.

Edw. O *Warwick*, I do bend my knee with thine,
 And in this vow do chain my soul with thine.
 And ere my knee rise from the earth's cold face,
 I throw my hands, mine eyes, my heart to thee,
 Thou Setter up, and Plucker down, of Kings!
 Beseeching thee, if with thy will it stands
 That to my foes this body must be prey,
 Yet that thy brazen gates of heav'n may ope,
 And give sweet passage to my sinful soul.—
 Now, Lords, take leave until we meet again;
 Where-e'er it be, in heaven or on earth.

was taken Prisoner, behcaded at *Pemfret*, and his Head, together with the Duke of York's, fix'd over *York-gates*. Then, the only Brother of *Warwick*, introduc'd in this Play, is the Marquess of *Montacute*; (or *Mountague*, as he is call'd by our Author :) but he does not dye, till ten years after, in the Battle at *Barnet*; where *Warwick* likewise was kill'd.

The truth is, the Brother here mention'd, is no Person in the Drama: and his Death is only an incidental Piece of History. Consulting the Chronicles, upon this Action at *Ferribridge*, I find him to have been a natural Son of *Salisbury*, (in that respect, a Brother to *Warwick*;) and esteem'd a valiant young Gentleman.

T. T. T.

Rich.

K I N G H E N R Y VI. 155

Rich. Brother, give me thy hand; and, gentle *Warwick*,

let me embrace thee in my weary arms,
that did never weep, now melt with woe;
that winter should cut off our spring time so.

War. Away, away. Once more, sweet Lords, farewell.

Cliff. Yet let us all together to our troops,
and give them leave to fly, that will not stay,
and call them pillars that will stand to us,
and, if we thrive, promise them such rewards
Victors wear at the *Olympian Games*.

This may plant courage in their quailing breasts,
or yet is hope of life and victory.

Fore-slow no longer, make we hence again. [*Exeunt.*]

Excursions. Enter Richard and Clifford.

Rich. Now, *Clifford*, I have singled thee alone;
I propose this arm is for the Duke of *York*,
and this for *Rutland*, both bound to revenge,
I girt thou environ'd with a brazen wall.

Cliff. Now, *Richard*, I am with thee here alone,
this is the hand that stabb'd thy father *York*;
and this the hand that slew thy brother *Rutland*;
and here's the heart that triumphs in their death,
and cheers these hands that slew thy sire and brother,
I execute the like upon thyself;
and so have at thee.

They fight. Warwick enters, Clifford flies

Rich. Nay, *Warwick*, single out some other chafe,
or I myself will hunt this wolf to death. [*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E VI.

Alarm. Enter King Henry alone.

K. Henry. This battle fares like to the morning's war,
when dying clouds contend with growing light,

What time the shepherd, blowing of his nails,
 Can neither call it perfect day nor night.
 Now sways it this way like a mighty sea
 Forc'd by the tide to combat with the wind;
 Now sways it that way, like the self-same sea
 Forc'd to retire by fury of the wind.
 Sometime the flood prevails; and then the wind;
 Now, one the better, then another best,
 Both tugging to be victors, breast to breast,
 Yet neither conqueror, nor conquered,
 So is the equal poize of this fell war.
 Here on this mole-hill will I sit me down.
 To whom God will, there be the victory!
 For *Margaret* my *Queen* and *Clifford* too
 Have chid me from the battle; swearing both,
 They prosper best of all when I am thence.
 Would I were dead, if God's good will were so,
 For what is in this world but grief and woe?
 O God! methinks it were a happy life²
 To be no better than a homely swain,
 To sit upon a hill, as I do now,
 To carve out dials quaintly, point by point,
 Thereby to see the minutes how they run,
 How many make the hour full compleat,
 How many hours bring about the day,
 How many days will finish up the year,
 How many years a mortal man may live.
 When this is known, then to divide the time;
 So many hours must I tend my flock;
 So many hours must I take my rest;
 So many hours must I contemplate;
 So many hours must I sport myself;
 So many days my ewes have been with young;

² — *methinks it were a happy life*] This speech is mournful and soft, exquisitely suited to the character of the king, and makes a pleasing interchange,

by affording, amidst the tumult and horror of the battle, an unexpected glimpse of rural innocence and pastoral tranquillity.

KING HENRY VI. 157.

weeks ere the poor fools will year;
 months ere I shall sheer the fleece;
 es, hours, days, weeks, months and years,
 to the end they were created,
 ring white hairs unto a quiet grave.
 at a life were this! how sweet, how lovely!
 t the haw-thorn bush a sweeter shade
 erds looking on their silly sheep,
 th a rich-embroider'd canopy
 s, that fear their subjects' treachery?
 it doth; a thousand-fold it doth.
 conclude, the shepherd's homely curds,
 thin drink out of his leather bottle,
 ted sleep under a fresh tree's shade,
 h secure and sweetly he enjoys,
 yond a Prince's delicacies,
 ds sparkling in a golden cup,
 y couched on a curious bed,
 are, mistrust and treasons wait on him.

S C E N E VII.

*Enter a Son that had kill'd his Father.**
 ll-blows the wind, that profits no body.—
 n, whom hand to hand I slew in fight,
 possessed with some store of crowns;
 at haply take them from him now,
 ere night, yield both my life and them
 : man else, as this dead man doth me.
 's this! oh God! it is my father's face,
 in this conflict I unwares have kill'd:
 y times, begetting such events!
 ondon by the King was I prest forth;
 er, being the Earl of Warwick's man,
 n the part of York, prest by his master:
 who at his hands receiv'd my life,
 y my hands of life bereaved him.

se two horrible incidents are selected to show the innu-
 amities of civil war.

Pardon

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Pardon me, God, I knew not what I did;
And pardon, father, for I knew not thee.
My tears shall wipe away these bloody marks,
And no more words, till they have flow'd their fill.

K. Henry. O piteous spectacle! O bloody times!
Whiles lions war and battle for their dens,
Poor harmless lambs abide their enmity.
Weep, wretched man, I'll aid thee tear for tear;
And let our hearts and eyes, like civil war,³
Be blind with tears, and break o'er-charg'd with grief.

Enter a Father bearing his Son.

Fath. Thou, that so stoutly hast resisted me,
Give me thy gold, if thou hast any gold,
For I have bought it with an hundred blows.
But let me see—Is this our foe-man's face?
Ah, no, no, no, it is my only son!
Ah, boy, if any life be left in thee,
Throw up thine eyes; see, see, what showers arise,
Blown with the windy tempest of my heart
Upon thy wounds, that kill mine eye and heart.
O pity, God, this miserable age!
* What stratagems, how fell, how butcherly,
Erroneous, mutinous, and unnatural,
This deadly quarrel daily doth beget!
O boy! thy father gave thee life too soon,⁵

And

³ *And let our hearts and eyes, like civil war, Be blind with tears, and break o'er-charg'd with grief.*] The meaning is here inaccurately expressed. The king intends to say that the state of their hearts and eyes shall be like that of the kingdom in a civil war, all shall be destroyed by power formed within themselves.

* *What stratagems,—*] Stra-

tagem seems to stand here only for an event of war, or may intend snares and surprises.

⁵ *O boy! thy father gave thee life too soon,*] Because had he been born later he would not now have been of years to engage in this quarrel.

And hath bereft thee of thy life too late.] i. e. he should have done it by not bringing thee into being, to make both father and

And hath bereft thee of thy life too late.

K. Henry. Woe above woe; grief, more than common grief;

that my death would stay these rueful deeds!
pity, pity, gentle heaven, pity!

He red rose and the white are on his face,

the fatal colours of our striving houses.

He one his purple blood right well resembles,

the other his pale cheek, methinks, presenteth.

Either one rose, and let the other flourish!

You contend, a thousand lives must wither.

Son. How will my mother, for a father's death,

live on with me, and ne'er be satisfy'd?

Fath. How will my wife, for slaughter of my son,
be seas of tears, and ne'er be satisfy'd?

K. Henry. How will the country, for these woful
chances,

if think the King, and not be satisfy'd?

Son. Was ever son, so ru'd a father's death?

Fath. Was ever father, so bemoan'd his son?

K. Henry. Was ever King, so griev'd for subjects'
woe?

Much is your sorrow; mine, ten times so much.

Son. I'll bear thee hence, where I may weep my fill.

[*Exit.*]

Fath. These arms of mine shall be thy winding-sheet,

My heart, sweet boy, shall be thy sepulchre;

And from my heart thine image ne'er shall go.

My sighing breast shall be thy funeral bell,

And so obsequious will thy father be, °

Sad

son thus miserable. This is

sense, such as it is, of the

lines, however an indifferent

idea was better than none, as it

is brought to by the *Oxford* Edi-

tion by reading the lines thus,

O boy! thy father gave thee life

too late,

And hath bereft thee of thy life

too soon. WARBURTON.

I rather think the meaning of

the line, *And hath bereft thee of*

thy life too late, to be this. Thy

father exposed thee to danger by

giving thee life too soon, and hath

bereft thee of life by living him-

self too long.

° *And so obsequious will thy fa-*

ther

THE THIRD PART OF

Sad for the loss of thee, having no more,

* As *Priam* was for all his valiant sons.

I'll bear thee hence, and let them fight that will;
For I have murder'd, where I should not kill. [Exit.]

K. Henry. Sad-hearted men, much overgone with care,
Here sits a King more woful than you are.

S C E N E VIII.

Alarms. Excursions. Enter the Queen, Prince of Wales, and Exeter.

Prince. Fly, father, fly, for all your friends are fled;
And *Warwick* rages like a chafed bull.

Away! for death doth hold us in pursuit.

Queen. Mount you, my Lord, towards *Berwick* post-
again.

Edward and *Richard*, like a brace of greyhounds
Having the fearful flying hare in sight,
With fiery eyes sparkling for very wrath,
And bloody steel graspt in their ireful hands,
Are at our backs; and therefore hence again.

Exe. Away, for vengeance comes along with them.
—Nay, stay not to expostulate, make speed;
Or else come after, I'll away before.

K. Henry. Nay, take me with thee, good sweet
Exeter;

Not that I fear to stay, but love to go
Whither the Queen intends. Forward, away! [Exit.]

S C E N E IX.

A loud Alarm. Enter Clifford wounded.

Clif. Here burns my candle out; ay, here it dies;
Which, while it lasted, gave King *Henry* light.

O *Lancaster*! I fear thy overthrow,
More than my body's parting with my soul.

ther be.] Obsequious is here having but *one* son, will grieve as
careful of *obsequies*, or of fune- much for that *one*, as *Priam*, who
ral rites. had many, could grieve for many.

* As *Priam* was for all! I

My

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My love and fear glew'd many friends to thee; [*Falling.*
 And, now I fall, thy tough commixtures melt,¹
 impairing *Henry*, strengthn'ing mis-proud *York*.
 The common People swarm like summer flies;
 And whither fly the gnats, but to the Sun?
 And who shines now, but *Henry's* enemies?
Phaëbus! hadst thou never giv'n consent
 That *Phaëton* should check thy fiery steeds,
 Thy burning Car had never scorch'd the earth;
 And *Henry*, hadst thou sway'd as Kings should do,
 As thy father and his father did,
 Giving no ground unto the House of *York*,
 They never then had sprung like summer flies.
 And ten thousand in this luckless Realm,
 Had left no mourning widows for our death;
 And thou this day hadst kept thy Chair in peace;
 Or what doth cherish Weeds, but gentle air?
 And what makes robbers bold, but too much lenity?
 Useless are plaints, and cureless are my wounds;
 No way to fly, nor strength to hold our flight.²
 The foe is merciless, and will not pity.
 Or at their hands I have deserv'd no pity.
 The air hath got into my deadly wounds,
 And much Effuse of blood doth make me faint.
 Come *York*, and *Richard*; *Warwick*, and the rest;
 Stabb'd your fathers' bosoms, split my breast.

[*He faints.*

Alarm and Retreat. Enter Edward, Warwick, Richard, Montague, Clarence, and Soldiers.

Edw. Now breathe we, Lords, good fortune bids us pause;

¹ — thy tough commixtures] Perhaps better, the tough commixtures.

² No way to fly, nor strength to hold our flight.] This line is dear and proper as it is now

read, yet perhaps an opposition of images was meant, and *Clifford* said,

No way to fly, nor strength to hold out fight.

And smoothe the frowns of war with peaceful looks;
Some troops pursue the bloody-minded Queen,
That led calm *Henry*, though he were a King,
As doth a Sail, fill'd with a fretting gust,
Command an Argosie to stem the waves.

But think you, Lords, that *Clifford* fled with them?

War. No, 'tis impossible he should escape:
For though before his face I speak the word,
Your brother *Richard* mark'd him for the grave:
And wherefoe'er he is, he's surely dead.

[*Clifford* groans.

Rich. Whose soul is that which takes her hearty
leave?

A deadly groan, like life and death's departing.⁹
See who it is.

Edw. And now the battle's ended,
If friend or foe, let him be gently used.

Rich. Revoke that doom of mercy, for 'tis *Clifford*,
Who not contented that he lopp'd the branch,
In hewing *Rutland* when his leaves put forth;
But sent his murd'ring knife unto the root
From whence that tender spray did sweetly spring;
I mean, our princely father, Duke of *York*.

War. From off the gates of *York* fetch down the
head,
Your father's head, which *Clifford* placed there;
Instead whereof, let his supply the room.
Measure for Measure must be answered.

Edw. Bring forth that fatal screech-owl to our House,
That nothing sung but death to us and ours;
Now death shall stop his dismal threatening sound,
And his ill-boarding tongue no more shall speak.

War. I think, his understanding is bereft.
—Speak, *Clifford*, dost thou know who speaks to thee?

⁹ — like life and death's departing. which Dr. Warburton has received.
reads, like life in death departing, Sir T. Hanmer.

cloudy death o'er-shades his beams of life,
he nor sees, nor hears us what we say.

cb. O, 'would he did! and so, perhaps, he doth;
but his policy to counterfeit,

if he would avoid such bitter taunts,
at the time of death he gave our father.

1. If so thou think'st, vex him with * eager words.

cb. *Clifford*, ask mercy, and obtain no grace.

1w. *Clifford*, repent in bootless penitence.

1r. *Clifford*, devise excuses for thy faults.

1. While we devise fell tortures for thy faults.

cb. Thou didst love *York*, and I am son to *York*.

1w. Thou pitied'st *Rutland*, I will pity thee.

1. Where's Captain *Margaret* to fence you now?

1r. They mock thee, *Clifford*, swear as thou wast
wont.

cb. What, not an oath! nay, then the world goes
hard,

if *Clifford* cannot spare his friends an oath,

now by that, he's dead; and, by my soul,
his right hand would buy but two hours' life,

if I in all despite might rail at him,
his hand should chop it off; and with the issuing blood
the villain, whose unstanch'd thirst
and young *Rutland* could not satisfy.

1r. Ay, but he's dead. Off with the traitor's head,
rear it in the place your father's stands.

Now to *London* with triumphant March,

to be crowned *England's* royal King,

whence shall *Warwick* cut the Sea to *France*,

ask the lady *Bona* for thy Queen;

halt thou sinew both these lands together.

having *France* thy friend, thou shalt not dread

scatter'd foe that hopes to rise again;

though they cannot greatly sting to hurt,

look to have them buz t'offend thine ears.

Will I see the Coronation,

* *Eager words.*] Sour words; words of asperity.

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And then to *Britanny* I'll cross the sea,
T'effect this marriage, so it please my Lord.

Edw. Ev'n as thou wilt, sweet *Warwick*, let it be;
For on thy shoulder do I build my Seat:

And never will I undertake the thing,
Wherein thy counsel, and consent, is wanting.

Richard, I will create thee Duke of *Glo'ster*;
And *George*, of *Clarence*; *Warwick* as our self
Shall do and undo, as him pleaseth best.

Rich. Let me be Duke of *Clarence*; *George*, of *Glo'ster*;
For *Glo'ster's* Dukedom is too ominous.

War. Tut, that's a foolish observation.

Richard, be Duke of *Glo'ster*. Now to *London*,
To see these honours in possession. [Exit.

ACT III. SCENE I.

A Wood in Lancashire.

Enter Sinklo and Humphry, with cross-bows in their hands.

SINKLO.

UNDER this thick-grown brake we'll shroud our-
selves,

For through this laund anon the Deer will come,
And in this covert will we make our Stand,
Culling the principal of all the Deer.

Hum. I'll stay above the hill, so both may shoot.

Sink. That cannot be; the noise of thy cross-bow
Will scare the herd, and so my shoot is lost;
Here stand we both, and aim we at the best,
And, for the time shall not seem tedious,
I'll tell thee what betel me on a day,

In this self-place where now we mean to stand.

Hum. Here comes a man, let's stay till he be past.

Enter King Henry with a prayer-book.

L. Henry. From Scotland am I stol'n ev'n of pure love,

greet mine own land with my wishful fight.

Harry, Harry, 'tis no land of thine,
place is fill'd, thy scepter wrung from thee;
balm washt oft, ' wherewith thou wast anointed:
rending knee will call thee *Cæsar* now,
umble suitors press to speak for Right,
not a man comes for redress to thee;
ow can I help them, and not myself?

k. Ay, here's a deer whose skin's a keeper's fee,
is the *quondam* King, let's seize upon him.

Henry. Let me embrace these four Adversities;
wise men say, it is the wisest course.

m. Why linger we? let us lay hands upon him.

k. Forbear a while, we'll hear a little more.

Henry. My Queen and Son are gone to *France*
for aid.

as I hear, the great commanding *Warwick*
ther gone to crave the *French* King's Sister
ise for *Edward*. If this news be true,
Queen and Son! your labour is but lost,
Warwick is a subtle orator,

Lewis, a Prince soon won with moving words.
this account, then, *Margaret* may win him,
he's a woman to be pitied much;
ighs will make a batt'ry in his breast,
ears will pierce into a marble heart,
Tyger will be mild, while she doth mourn,
Nero would be tainted with remorse,
ear, and see her plaints, her brinish tears.
, but she's come to beg, *Warwick* to give;

by balm washt off,———]
is an image very frequent
works of *Shakspere*. So
in this Scene,
I was anointed King.

It is common in these Plays to
find the same images, whether
jocular or serious, frequently re-
curring.

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She, on his left side, craving aid for *Henry* ;
 He, on his right, asking a wife for *Edward*.
 She weeps, and says, her *Henry* is depos'd ;
 He smiles, and says, his *Edward* is install'd ;
 That she, poor wretch, for grief can speak no more,
 While *Warwick* tells his Title, smooths the wrong,
 * Inferreth arguments of mighty strength,
 And in conclusion wins the King from her,
 With promise of his sister, and what else,
 To strengthen, and support King *Edward's* place.
 —O *Marg'rot*, thus 'twill be, and thou, poor soul,
 Art then forsaken, as thou went'st forlorn.

Hum. Say, what art thou that talk'st of Kings
 Queens ?

K. Henry. More than I seem, and less than I
 born to ;

A man at least, for less I should not be ;
 And men may talk of Kings, and why not I ?

Hum. Ay, but thou talk'st, as if thou wert a Ki

K. Henry. Why, so I am in mind, and that's enou

Hum. But if thou be a King, where is thy Crow

K. Henry. My Crown is in my heart, not on
 head,

Not deck'd with Diamonds and *Indian* Stones,

Not to be seen ; my Crown is call'd *Content*,

A Crown it is, that seldom Kings enjoy.

Hum. Well, if you be a King crown'd with C
 tent,

Your crown *Content* and you must be contented

To go along with us. For, as we think,

You are the King, King *Edward* hath depos'd,

And we his subjects, sworn in all allegiance,

Will apprehend you as his enemy.

K. Henry. But did you never swear, and brea
 oath ?

* In the former act was the same line,
Inferreth arguments of mighty force.

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Hum. No, never such an oath; nor will not now.

K. Henry. Where did you dwell when I was king of England?

Hum. Here, in this country, where we now remain.

K. Henry. I was anointed King at nine months old;
My father and my grandfather were Kings,
And you were sworn true subjects unto me;
And tell me then, have you not broke your oaths?

Sink. No, we were subjects, but while you were King.

K. Henry. Why am I dead? do I not breathe a man?

Oh, simple men, you know not what you swear.

Look, as I blow this feather from my face,

And as the air blows it to me again,

Obeying with my wind when I do blow,

And yielding to another when it blows,

Commanded always by the greater gust,

Such is the lightness of you common men.

—But do not break your oaths, for of that sin

My mild intreaty shall not make you guilty.

Go where you will, the King shall be commanded,

And be you, Kings, command, and I'll obey.

Sink. We are true Subjects to the King, King Edward.

K. Henry. So would you be again to Henry,
If he were seated as King Edward is.

Sink. We charge you in God's name, and in the King's,

To go with us unto the officers.

K. Henry. In God's name lead, your King's name
be obey'd;

And what God will, that let your king perform;

And what he will, I humbly yield unto. [*Exeunt.*]

SCENE II.

*Changes to the Palace.**Enter King Edward, Gloucester, Clarence, and Lady Gray.*

K. *Edw.* **B**ROTHER of *Glo'ster*, at *St. Alban's* field

This lady's husband, ^a Sir *John Gray*, was slain,
His land then seiz'd on by the Conqueror;
Her suit is now to repossess those lands,
Which we in justice cannot well deny,
Because, in quarrel of the house of *York*,
The worthy gentleman did lose his life.

Glo. Your Highness shall do well to grant her suit,
It were dishonour to deny it her.

K. *Edw.* It were no less; but yet I'll make a pause.

Glo. Yea! is it so? [*Aside.*]

I see, the lady hath a thing to grant,
Before the king will grant her humble suit.

Clar. He knows the game; how true he keeps the wind?

Glo. Silence.

K. *Edw.* * Widow we will consider of your suit,
And come some other time to know our mind.

Gray. Right gracious Lord, I cannot brook delay,
May't please your Highness to resolve me now,
And what your pleasure is, shall satisfy me.

Glo. [*Aside.*] Ay, widow? then I'll warrant you
all your lands,

And if what pleases him shall pleasure you.

—Fight closer, or, good faith you'll catch a blow.

Clar. [*Aside.*] I fear her not, unless she chance to fall.

^a Sir John Gray,] Vid. *Hall*,
3d year of *Edw.* IV. folio 5. It
was hitherto fairly printed *Rich-*
ard. Pope.

* Widow, we will consider.]

This is a very lively and spritely
dialogue; the reciprocation is
quicker than is common in *Shake-*
peare.

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e.] God forbid that! for he'll take vantages,
How many children hast thou, widow?
me.

ide.] I think, he means to beg a child of her.

te.] Nay, whip me then: he'll rather give
two.

ree, my most gracious Lord.

le.] You shall have four, if you'll be ruled
im.

'Twere pity they should lose their father's
s.

pitiful, dread Lord, and grant it then.

Lords, give us leave; I'll try this widow's

good leave have you, for you will have leave;
ake leave, and leave you to the crutch.

ucester and Clarence retire to the other side.

Now tell me, Madam, do you love your
lren?

, full as dearly as I love myself.

And would you not do much to do them
l?

do them good, I would sustain some harm.

Then get your husband's lands to do them
l.

erefore I came unto your Majesty.

I'll tell you how these lands are to be got.

shall you bind me to your Highness' service.

What service wilt thou do me, if I give
l?

hat you command that rests in me to do.

But you will take exceptions to my boon?

, gracious Lord, except I cannot do it,

Ay, but thou canst do what I mean to ask.

ay, then I will do what your Grace com-
ds.

plies her hard, and much rain wears the
ble,

Clar,

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Clar. As red as fire! nay, then her wax must melt.
Gray. Why stops my Lord? shall I not hear my task?

K. Edw. An easy task, 'tis but to love a King.

Gray. That's soon perform'd, because I am a subject.

K. Edw. Why then, thy husband's lands I freely give thee.

Gray. I take my leave with many thousand thanks.

Glo. The match is made, she seals it with a curtsy.

K. Edw. But stay thee, 'tis the fruits of love I mean.

Gray. The fruits of love I mean, my loving Liege.

K. Edw. Ay, but I fear me, in another sense.
 What love, think'st thou, I sue so much to get?

Gray. My love till death, my humble thanks, and prayers;

That love which virtue begs, and virtue grants.

K. Edw. No, by my troth, I did not mean such love.

Gray. Why, then you mean not as I thought you did.

K. Edw. But now you partly may perceive my mind.

Gray. My mind will never grant what I perceive Your Highness aims at, if I aim aright.

K. Edw. To tell thee plain, I aim to lie with thee.

Gray. To tell you plain, I'd rather lie in prison.

K. Edw. Why, then thou shalt not have thy husband's lands.

Gray. Why, then my honesty shall be my dowry.
 For by that loss I will not purchase them.

K. Edw. Therein thou wrong'st thy children mightily.

Gray. Herein your Highness wrongs both them and me.

But, mighty Lord, this merry inclination

Accords not with the sadness of my suit;

Please you dismiss me, or with ay; or no.

K. Edw. Ay, if thou wilt say, Ay, to my request.

No, if thou dost say, *No*, to my demand.

Gray. Then, *No*, my Lord. My suit is at an end.

Glo. The widow likes him not, she knits her brows.

Clar. He is the bluntest wooer in Christendom.

K. Edw. [*Aside*.] Her looks do argue her replete
with modesty.

Her words do shew her wit incomparable,

All her perfections challenge Sovereignty ;

One way, or other, she is for a King ;

And she shall be my love, or else my Queen.

—Say, that King *Edward* take thee for his Queen ?

Gray. 'Tis better said than done, my gracious Lord ;
I am a subject fit to jest withal,
But far unfit to be a Sovereign.

K. Edw. Sweet Widow, by my State, I swear to thee,
I speak no more than what my soul intends ;
And that is, to enjoy thee for my love.

Gray. And that is more than I will yield unto.
I know I am too mean to be your Queen ;
And yet too good to be your Concubine.

K. Edw. You cavil, Widow ; I did mean, my
Queen.

Gray. 'Twill grieve your Grace, my sons should call
you father.

K. Edw. No more than when my daughters call thee
mother.

Thou art a widow, and thou hast some children ;
And, by God's mother, I, being but a batchelor,
Have other some. Why, 'tis a happy thing,
To be the father unto many sons.

Answer no more, for thou shalt be my Queen.

Glo. The ghostly father now hath done his shrift.

Clar. When he was made a shriver, 'twas for shift.

K. Edw, Brothers, you muse what Chat we two
have had.

Glo. The widow likes it not, for she looks sad.

K. Edw. You'd think it strange, if I should marry
her.

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Clar. To whom, my Lord?

K. Edw. Why, *Clarence*, to myself.

Glo. That would be ten days Wonder at the least.

Clar. That's a day longer than the wonder lasts.

Glo. By so much is the Wonder in extreams.

K. Edw. Well, jest on, Brothers; I can tell you both,

Her suit is granted for her husband's lands.

Enter a Nobleman.

Nob. My gracious Lord, *Henry* your foe is taken,
And brought your prisoner to your Palace-gates.

K. Edw. See that he be conveyed unto the Tower:
And go we, Brothers, to the man that took him,
To question of his Apprehension.

—Widow, go you along—Lords, use her honourably. *[Exit.]*

S C E N E III.

Manet Gloucester.

Glo. Ay, *Edward* will use women honourably.
Would he were wasted, marrow, bones, and all,
That from his loins no hopeful branch may spring,
To cross me from the golden time I look for.
And yet between my soul's desire and me,
The lustful *Edward's* Title buried,
Is *Clarence*, *Henry*, and his son young *Edward*;
And all th' unlook'd for issue of their bodies,
To take their rooms ere I can place myself.
A cold premeditation for my purpose!
Why, then I do but dream on Sov'reignty,
Like one that stands upon a promontory,
And spies a far-off shore where he would tread,
Wishing his foot were equal with his eye,
And chides the Sea that sunders him from thence,

Say-

he'll lade it dry to have his way;
 wish, the Crown being so far off,
 I chide the means that keep me from it;
 I say, I'll cut the causes off,
 and my mind with things impossible.
 'Tis too quick, my heart o'erweens too much,
 my hand and strength could equal them.
 I say there is no Kingdom then for *Richard*,
 other pleasure can the world afford?
 To see my heaven in a lady's lap,
 To deck my body in gay ornaments,
 To witch sweet ladies with my words and looks.
 A terrible thought! and more unlikely,
 To accomplish twenty golden Crowns.
 Love forswore me in my mother's womb;
 For I should not deal in her soft laws,
 To corrupt frail nature with some bribe
 To sink mine arm up like a wither'd shrub,
 To make an envious mountain on my back,
 To sit deformity to mock my body;
 To make my legs of an unequal size;
 To disproportion me in every part,
 Like a Chaos, or 'unlick'd bear-whelp,
 That carries no impression like the dam.
 O! I then a man to be belov'd?
 A monstrous fault, to harbour such a thought!
 Since this earth affords no joy to me,
 I'll take my command, to check, * to o'erbear such
 Of better person than myself;

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lick'd bear-whelp.] It was
 on which, in spite of its
 , prevailed long, that
 bring forth only shape-
 ps of animated flesh,
 e licks into the form of
 It is now well known
 whelps of the bear are

produced in the same state with
 those of other creatures.

* ——— *To o'erbear such*

As are of better person than my-
self.] *Richard* speaks here

the language of nature. Who-
 ever is stigmatized with deformi-
 ty has a constant source of envy
 in

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I'll make my heav'n to dream upon the Crown ;
 And, while I live, t'account this world but Hell,
 Until the mis-shap'd trunk that bears this head,
 Be round impaled with a glorious Crown,
 And yet I know not how to get the Crown,
 For many lives stand between me and home,
 And I, like one lost in a thorny wood,
 That rends the thorns, and is rent with the thorns,
 Seeking a way, and straying from the way,
 Not knowing how to find the open air,
 But toiling desp'rately to find it out,
 Torment myself to catch the *English* Crown,
 And from that torment I will free myself,
 Or hew my way out with a bloody ax.
 Why, I can smile, and murder while I smile ;
 And cry, *Content*, to that which grieves my heart ;
 And wet my cheeks with artificial tears,
 And frame my face to all occasions.
 I'll drown more sailors than the Mermaid shall ;
 I'll slay more gazers, than the Basilisk ;
 I'll play the orator as well as *Nestor* :
 Deceive more sily than *Ulysses* could ;
 And, like a *Sinon*, take another *Troy*.
 I can add colours ev'n to the Camelion ;
 Change Shapes with *Proteus*, for advantages ;
 ' And set the murd'rous *Macbiavel* to school.
 Can I do this, and cannot get a Crown ?
 Tut, were it farther off, I'll pluck it down. [Exit.

In his mind, and would counter-
 ballance by some other superio-
 rity, these advantages which they
 feel themselves to want. *Bacon*
 remarks that the deformed are
 commonly daring, and it is almost
 proverbially observed that they
 are ill-natured. The truth is,
 that the deformed, like all other
 men, are displeased with infe-
 riority, and endeavour to gain

ground by good or bad means,
 as they are virtuous or corrupt.
 ' And set the murth'rous *Mac-*
chiavel to school.] As this
 is an Anachronism, and the old
 quarto reads,
 And set th' aspiring *Catiline* to
 school,
 I don't know why it should not
 be prefer'd. WARBURTON-

SCENE

S C E N E IV.

Changes to France.

Flourish. Enter King Lewis, Lady Bona, Bourbon, Edward Prince of Wales, Queen Margaret, and the Earl of Oxford. Lewis sits, and riseth up again.

K. Lewis. **F**AIR Queen of England, worthy Margaret,

Sit down with us ; it ill befits thy State,
And Birth, that thou shouldst stand, while *Lewis* sits.

Queen. No, mighty King of France, now Margaret
Must strike her sail, and learn a while to serve,
Where Kings command. I was, I must confess,
Great Albion's Queen in former golden days,
But now mischance hath trod my title down,
And with dishonour laid me on the ground ;
Where I must take like seat unto my fortune,
And to my humble Seat conform myself.

K. Lew. Why say, fair Queen, whence springs this
deep despair ?

Queen. From such a cause as fills mine eyes with
tears ;
And stops my tongue, while my heart's drown'd in
cares.

K. Lew. Whate'er it be, be thou still like thyself,
And sit thou by our side. Yield not thy neck
[*Seats her by him.*]

To fortune's yoke, but let thy dauntless mind
Still ride in triumph over all mischance.

Be plain, Queen Margaret, and tell thy grief ;
It shall be eas'd, if France can yield relief.

Queen. Those gracious words revive my drooping
thoughts,

And give my tongue-ty'd sorrows leave to speak.

Now therefore be it known to noble *Lewis*,

That

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That *Henry*, sole possessor of my love,
Is, of a King, become a banish'd man,
And forc'd to live in *Scotland* a forlorn;
While proud ambitious *Edward*, Duke of *York*,
Usurps the regal Title and the Seat
Of *England's* true-anointed lawful King.
This is the cause, that I, poor *Margaret*,
With this my son Prince *Edward*, *Henry's* heir,
Am come to crave thy just and lawful aid,
And, if thou fail us, all our hope is done.
Scotland hath will to help, but cannot help,
Our People and our Peers are both misled,
Our Treasure seiz'd, our Soldiers put to flight,
And, as thou seest, ourselves in heavy plight.

K. *Lew.* Renowned Queen, with patience calm the
storm,
While we bethink a means to break it off.

Queen. The more we stay, the stronger grows our
foe.

K. *Lew.* The more I stay, the more I'll succour thee.

Queen. ⁶ O, but impatience waiteth on true sorrow;
And see, where comes the breeder of my sorrow.

⁶ O, but impatience WAITETH
ON TRUE SORROW:

And see where comes the breeder
of my sorrow.] How
does impatience more particu-
larly, wait on true sorrow! On
the contrary, such sorrow as the
Queen's, which came gradually
on, through a long course of
misfortunes, is generally less im-
patient than that of those who
have fallen into sudden miseries.
The true reading seems to be,

O, but impatience WAITING,
RUES TO MORROW:

And see, where comes the breed-
er of my sorrow.

i. e. When impatience waits and
solicits for redress, there is no

thing she so much dreads as be-
ing put off till to morrow (a
proverbial expression for procrast-
ination.) This was a very pro-
per reply to what the King said
last, and is a sentiment worthy
of the poet. A rhyme too is ad-
ded, as was customary with him,
at the closing a scene.

WARBURTON.

It is strange that, when the
sense is so clear, any commenta-
tor should thus laboriously ob-
scure it, to introduce a new read-
ing; and yet stranger that he
should shew such confidence in
his emendation as to insert it in
the text.

SCENE

S C E N E V.

Enter Warwick.

K. *Lew.* What's he, approacheth boldly to our presence?

Queen. Our Earl of *Warwick*, *Edward's* greatest friend.

K. *Lew.* Welcome, brave *Warwick*. What brings thee to *France*? [*He descends. She arisesb.*]

Queen. Ay, now begins a second storm to rise;
For this is he, that moves both wind and tide.

War. From worthy *Edward*, King of *Albion*,
My Lord and Sov'reign, and thy vowed friend,
I come in kindness and unfeigned love,
First to do greetings to thy royal person,
And then to crave a league of amity;
And lastly, to confirm that amity
With nuptial knot, if thou vouchsafe to grant
That virtuous lady *Bona*, thy fair sister,
To *England's* King in lawful marriage.

Queen. If that go forward, *Henry's* hope is done!

War. And, gracious Madam, in our King's behalf,
[*Speaking to Bona.*]

I am commanded, with your leave and favour,
Humbly to kiss your hand, and with my tongue
To tell the passion of my Sov'reign's heart.
Where fame, late ent'ring at his heedful ears,
Hath plac'd thy beauty's image and thy virtues.

Queen. King *Lewis*, and lady *Bona*, hear me speak,
Before you answer *Warwick*. His demand
Springs not from *Edward's* well-meant honest love,
But from deceit bred by necessity;
For how can tyrants safely govern home,
Unless abroad they purchase great alliance?
To prove him tyrant, this reason may suffice,
That *Henry* liveth still; but were he dead,

Yet here Prince *Edward* stands, King *Henry*'s son.
 Look therefore, *Lewis*, that by this league and marriage
 Thou draw not on thee danger and dishonour,
 For tho' Usurpers sway the Rule a while,
 Yet heav'ns are just, and time suppresseth wrongs.

War. Injurious *Margaret*! ———

Prince. And why not Queen?

War. Because thy father *Henry* did usurp,
 And thou no more art Prince, than she is Queen.

Oxf. Then *Warwick* disannuls great *John* of *Gaunt*
 Which did subdue the greatest part of *Spain*;
 And, after *John* of *Gaunt*, *Henry* the fourth
 Whose wisdom was a mirror to the wisest;
 And, after that wise Prince, *Henry* the fifth
 Who by his Prowess conquered all *France*;
 From these our *Henry* lineally descends.

War. *Oxford*, how haps it in this smooth discourse,
 You told not, how *Henry* the sixth hath lost
 All that which *Henry* the fifth had gotten?
 Methinks, these Peers of *France* should smile at that.
 But, for the rest; you tell a Pedigree
 Of threescore and two years, a silly time
 To make Prescription for a Kingdom's worth.

Oxf. Why, *Warwick*, canst thou speak against thy
 Liege,
 Whom thou obeyedst thirty and six years,
 And not bewray thy treason with a blush?

War. Can *Oxford*, that did ever fence the Right,
 Now buckler falsehood with a Pedigree?
 For shame, leave *Henry*, and call *Edward* King.

Oxf. Call him my King, by whose injurious doom,
 My elder brother, the Lord *Aubrey Vere*,
 Was done to death? and more than so, my father;
 Even in the downfall of his mellow'd years,
 When nature brought him to the door of death?
 No, *Warwick*, no; while life upholds this arm,
 This arm upholds the House of *Lancaster*.

War. And I the House of *York*.

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K. Lew. Queen Margaret, Prince Edward, and Oxford,

Vouchsafe at our request to stand aside,
While I use farther conference with *Warwick*.

Queen. Heav'ns grant, that *Warwick's* words bewitch him not! [*They stand aloof.*]

K. Lew. Now, *Warwick*, tell me ev'n upon thy conscience,

Is *Edward* your true King? for I were loth
To link with him, that were not lawful choic'd.

War. Thereon I pawn my credit and mine honour.

K. Lew. But is he gracious in the people's eyes?

War. The more, that *Henry* was unfortunate.

K. Lew. Then further; all dissembling set aside,
Tell me for truth the measure of his love
Into our sister *Bona*.

War. Such it seems,
As may beseem a Monarch like himself;
Myself have often heard him say, and swear,
That this his love was an eternal plant,
Whereof the root was fix'd in virtue's ground,
The leaves and fruit maintain'd with beauty's sun,
Exempt from envy, but not from disdain,
Unless the lady *Bona* quit his pain.

K. Lew. Now, sister, let us hear your firm resolve.

Bona. Your Grant, or your Denial, shall be mine.
Let I confess, that often ere this day, [*Speaking to War.*]

¹ That this his love was an
EXTERNAL plant.] The old
text reads rightly eternal: Al-
luding to the plants of *Paradise*.

WARBURTON.

² Exempt from envy, but not
from disdain.] Envy is al-
ways supposed to have some fa-
minating or blasting power, and
be out of the reach of envy
therefore a privilege belonging
only to great excellence. I know

not well why *envy* is mentioned
here, or whole *envy* can be meant,
but the meaning is that his love
is superiour to *envy*, and can feel
no blast but from the Lady's *dis-
dain*. Or, that if *Bona* refuse to
quit or requite his pain, his love
may turn to *disdain*, though the
consciousness of his own merit
will exempt him from the pangs
of *envy*.

When I have heard your King's desert recounted,
Mine ear hath tempted judgment to desire.

K. Lew. Then, *Warwick*, this. Our sister shall
Edward's.

And now forthwith shall articles be drawn
Touching the jointure that your King must make,
Which with her dowry shall be counterpois'd.
Draw near, Queen *Margaret*, and be a witness,
That *Bona* shall be wife to th' *English* King.

Prince. To *Edward*, but not to the *English* King.

Queen. Deceitful *Warwick*, it was thy device
By this alliance to make void my suit;
Before thy Coming, *Lewis* was *Henry's* friend.

K. Lew. And still is friend to him and *Margaret*;
But if your Title to the Crown be weak,
As may appear by *Edward's* good success,
Then 'tis but reason, that I be releas'd
From giving aid, which late I promised.
Yet shall you have all kindness at my hand,
That your estate requires, and mine can yield.

War. *Henry* now lives in *Scotland* at his ease,
Where having nothing, nothing can he lose.
And as for you yourself, our *quondam* Queen,

* You have a father able to maintain you;
And better 'twere, you troubled him than *France*.

Queen. Peace, impudent and shameless *Warwick*!
peace!

Proud setter-up and puller-down of Kings!
I will not hence, till with my talk and tears,
Both full of truth, I make King *Lewis* behold
9 Thy sly conveyance, and thy Lord's false love;

[*Post*, blowing a horn with

For both of you are birds of self-same feather.

K. Lew. *Warwick*, this is some *Post* to us, or th

* You have a father able——]
This seems ironical. The poverty of *Margaret's* father is a very frequent topick of reproach.

9 Thy sly conveyance.] C
veyance is juggling, and the is taken for artifice and fraud

KING HENRY VI.

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SCENE VI.

Enter a Post.

Post. My Lord Ambassador, these letters are for you; [*To Warwick.*

sent from your brother, Marquis *Montague*.

These, from our King unto your Majesty. [*To K. Lew.*

And, Madam, these for you; from whom I know not.

[*To the Queen. They all read their Letters.*

Oxf. I like it well, that our fair Queen and Mistress
niles at her news, while *Warwick* frowns at his.

Prince. Nay, mark, how *Lewis* stamps as he were
nettled.

hope, all's for the best.

K. Lew. *Warwick*, what are thy news? and yours,
fair Queen?

Queen. Mine such, as fills my heart with unhop'd
joys.

War. Mine full of sorrow and heart's discontent.

K. Lew. What! has your King marry'd the lady
Gray?

and now, to sooth your forgery and his,

sends me a paper to persuade me patience?

this th'alliance, that he seeks with *France*?

will he presume to scorn us in this manner?

Queen. I told your Majesty as much before;

his proveth *Edward's* love and *Warwick's* honesty.

War. King *Lewis*, I here protest in sight of heav'n,

and by the hope I have of heav'nly blifs,

that I am clear from this misdeed of *Edward's*,

no more my King; for he dishonours me,

and most himself, if he could see his shame.

and I forget, that by the House of *York*,

my father came untimely to his death?

' Did I let pass th' abuse done to my Niece?
 Did I impale him with the regal Crown?
 Did I put *Henry* from his native Right?
 And am I guerdon'd at the last with shame!
 Shame on himself, for my desert is honour!
 And to repair my honour lost for him,
 I here renounce him, and return to *Henry*.
 —My noble Queen, let former grudges pass,
 And, henceforth, I am thy true servitor;
 I will revenge his wrong to lady *Bona*,
 And replant *Henry* in his former state.

Queen. *Warwick*, these words have turn'd my hate
 to love,

And I forgive and quite forget old faults,
 And joy, that thou becom'st King *Henry's* friend.

War. So much his friend, ay, his unfeigned friend,
 That if King *Lewis* vouchsafe to furnish us
 With some few bands of chosen soldiers,
 I'll undertake to land them on our coast,
 And force the tyrant from his seat by war.
 'Tis not his new-made bride shall succour him,
 And, as for *Clarence*, as my letters tell me,
 He's very likely now to fall from him,
 For matching more for wanton lust than honour,
 Or than for strength and safety of our Country.

Bona. Dear brother, how shall *Bona* be reveng'd,
 But by thy help to this distressed Queen?

Queen. Renowned Prince, how shall poor *Henry* live,
 Unless thou rescue him from foul despair?

Bona. My quarrel, and this *English* Queen's, are one.
War. And mine, fair lady *Bona*, joins with yours.

K. Lew. And mine with hers, and thine, and *Margaret's*.

Therefore at last I firmly am resolv'd
 You shall have aid.

[Did I let pass th' abuse done to my Niece?] Edward attempted in the Earl of
Warwick's house. HOLINGSHEAD.

cen. Let me give humble thanks for all at once.
Lew. Then, *England's* messenger, return in post,
 tell false *Edward*, thy supposed King,
Lewis of France is sending over maskers,
 to revel it with him and his new bride.
cen. I see what's past, 'go fear thy King withal.
va. Tell him, in hope he'll prove a widower
 shortly,
 for the willow garland for his sake.
cen. Tell him, my mourning weeds are laid aside;
 I am ready to put armour on.
sr. Tell him from me, that he hath done me
 wrong;
 therefore I'll uncrown him ere't be long.
 Here's thy reward, be gone.—— [*Exit Post.*]
Lew. But, *Warwick*,
 thyself and *Oxford* with five thousand men
 cross the seas, and bid false *Edward* battle.
 As occasion serves, this noble Queen
 prince shall follow with a fresh supply.
 Ere thou go, but answer me one doubt:
 What pledge have we of thy firm loyalty?
sr. This shall assure my constant loyalty,
 If our Queen and this young Prince agree,
 to join my younger daughter and my joy,

do, fear thy King.] That
 might thy King.
 In former copies,
 in my eldest Daughter and
 my Joy,
 in my forthwith,——] Surely
 is a Mistake of the Copyists.
 in the 4th Year of K. Ed-
 IV. says *Edward* Prince of
 wedded *Anne* SECOND
 daughter to the Earl of *War-*
 And the Duke of *Clare-*
 was in Love with the EL-
 the Lady *Isabel*; and in

reality was married to her five
 Years before Prince *Edward* took
 the Lady *Anne* to Wife.
 And in K. *Richard* third, *Glou-*
cester, who married this Lady
Anne when a Widow, says,
 For then I'll marry *Warwick's*
 YOUNGEST Daughter.
 What tho' I kill'd her Husband
 and her Father?
 i. e. Prince *Edward*, and K. *Hen-*
 ry VI her Father-in-Law. See
 likewise *Holinshed* in his *Chro-*
nicle; p. 671 and 674. THEOB.

To him forthwith, in holy wedlock' bands.

Queen. Yes, I agree, and thank you for your motion.
Son *Edward*, she is fair and virtuous;
Therefore delay not, give thy hand to *Warwick*,
And, with thy hand, thy faith irrevocable,
That only *Warwick's* daughter shall be thine.

Prince. Yes, I accept her, for she well deserves it,
And here to pledge my vow, I give my hand.

[*He gives his hand to Warwick.*]

K. Lew. Why stay we now; these soldiers shall be
levy'd,

And thou, Lord *Bourbon*, our High Admiral,
Shalt waft them over with our royal fleet.

I long, till *Edward* fall by war's mischance,
For mocking marriage with a Dame of *France*.

[*Exeunt. Manet Warwick.*]

War. I came from *Edward* as ambassador,
But I return his sworn and mortal foe.
Matter of marriage was the Charge he gave me,
But dreadful war shall answer his demand.

Had he none else to make a Stale but me?
Then none but I shall turn his jest to sorrow.

I was the chief that rais'd him to the Crown,
And I'll be chief to bring him down again:

Not that I pity *Henry's* misery,

But seek revenge on *Edward's* mockery.

[*Exit.*]

ACT IV. SCENE I.

The Palace in England.

Enter Gloucester, Clarence, Somerset and Montague.

GLOUCESTER.

NOW tell me, brother *Clarence*, what think you
Of this new marriage with the lady *Gray*?
Hath not our brother made a worthy choice?

Clar. Alas, you know, 'tis far from hence to *France*:
How could he stay till *Warwick* made return?

Som. My Lords, forbear this talk. Here comes the
King.

Ourish. *Enter King Edward, Lady Gray as Queen,
Pembroke, Stafford, and Hastings: Four stand on
one side, and four on the other.*

Glo. And his well chosen bride.

Cl. I mind to tell him plainly what I think.

K. Edw. Now, brother *Clarence*, how like you our
choice,

That you stand penfive, as half malecontent?

Clar. As well as *Lewis* of *France*, or th' Earl of
Warwick,

Which are so weak of courage, and in judgment,
That they'll take no offence at our abuse.

K. Edw. Suppose, they take offence without a cause.
They are but *Lewis* and *Warwick*, and I am *Edward*,
Your King and *Warwick's*, and must have my will.

Glo. And you shall have your will, because our King.
Yet hasty marriage seldom proveth well.

K. Edw. Yea, brother *Richard*, are you offended too?

Glo. Not I; no. God forbid that I should wish
Them severed whom God hath join'd together;

Pity

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Pity to funder them, that yoke so well.

K. *Edw.* Setting your scorns and your dislike aside,
Tell me some reason, why the Lady *Gray*
Should not become my wife, and *England's* Queen?
And you too, *Somerſet* and *Montague*,
Speak freely what you think.

Clar. Then, this is my opinion; that King *Lewis*
Becomes your enemy for mocking him
About the marriage of the lady *Bona*.

Glo. And *Warwick*, doing what you gave in charge,
Is now diſhonoured by this new marriage.

K. *Edw.* What if both *Lewis* and *Warwick* be ap-
peas'd,
By ſuch invention as I can deviſe?

Mont. Yet to have join'd with *France* in ſuch alliance,
Would more have ſtrengthen'd this our Commonwealth
'Gainſt foreign ſtorms, than any home-bred marriage.

Hast. Why, knows not *Montague*, that of itſelf
England is ſafe, if true within itſelf?

Mont. Yes; but the ſafer, when 'tis back'd with
France.

Hast. 'Tis better uſing *France*, than truſting *France*.
Let us be back'd with God, and with the ſeas,
Which he hath given for fence impregnable,
And with their helps alone defend ourſelves;
In them, and in ourſelves, our ſafety lies.

Clar. For this one ſpeech, Lord *Hastings* well de-
ſerves

To have the Heir of the Lord *Hungerford*.

K. *Edw.* Ay, what of that? it was my will and Grant,
And for this once my will ſhall ſtand for law.

Glo. And yet, methinks, your Grace hath not done
well,

To give the heir and daughter of Lord *Scales*

— with the ſeas,] This and favoured the intereſt of
has been the advice of every *England*.
man who in any age underſtood

Unto

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to the brother of your loving bride.

better would have fitted Me, or *Clarence*;

in your bride you bury brotherhood.

Lar. Or else you * would not have bestow'd the heir

the Lord *Bonvil* on your new wife's son,

and leave your brothers to go speed elsewhere.

Edw. Alas, poor *Clarence*! is it for a wife

that thou art malecontent? I will provide thee.

Lar. In chusing for yourself, you shew'd your judgment;

rich being shallow, you shall give me Leave

to play the broker in mine own behalf;

and, to that end, I shortly mind to leave you.

Edw. Leave me, or tarry, *Edward* will be King,

and not be ty'd unto his brother's will.

Queen. My Lords, before it pleas'd his Majesty

to raise my state to Title of a Queen,

it was but right, and you must all confess

that I was not ignoble of Descent;

and meaner than myself have had like fortune.

As this Title honours me and mine,

your dislikes, to whom I would be pleasing,

cloud my joys with danger and with sorrow.

Edw. My Love, forbear to fawn upon their frowns;

no danger, or what sorrow, can befall thee,

long as *Edward* is thy constant friend,

their true Sovereign, whom they must obey?

Whom they shall obey, and love thee too,

unless they seek for hatred at my hands,

which if they do, yet will I keep thee safe,

that they shall feel the vengeance of my wrath.

Bo. [*aside*] I hear, yet say not much, but think the more.

— you would not have bestowed the heir] It must be observed, that till the restoration the heiresses of great estates were in the wardship of the king, who in their minority gave

them up to plunder, and afterwards matched them to his favourites. I know not when liberty gained more than by the abolition of the court of wards.

SCENE

Enter a Post

K. *Edw.* Now, Messenger, what letters or what news from *France*?

Post. My Sovereign Liege, no letters, and few words; But such as I, without your special pardon, Dare not relate.

K. *Edw.* Go to, we pardon thee.
So tell their words, as near as thou canst guess them.
What answer makes King *Lewis* to our letters?

Post. At my depart, these were his very words;
—Go tell false *Edward*, thy supposed King,
That *Lewis* of *France* is sending over maskers
To revel it with him and his new bride.

K. *Edw.* Is *Lewis* so brave? belike, he thinks me *Henry*.

But what said lady *Bona* to my marriage?

Post. These were her words, utter'd with mild disdain;
—Tell him, in hope he'll prove a widower shortly,
I'll wear the willow garland for his sake.

K. *Edw.* I blame not her, she could say little less;
She had the wrong. But what said *Henry's* Queen?
For so I heard, that she was there in place.

Post. Tell him, quoth she, my mourning weeds are done;

And I am ready to put armour on.

K. *Edw.* Belike, she means to play the *Amazon*.
But what said *Warwick* to these injuries?

Post. He, more incens'd against your Majesty
Than all the rest, discharg'd me with these words;
—Tell him from me, that he hath done me Wrong,
And therefore I'll uncrown him ere't be long.

K. *Edw.* Ha! durst the Traitor breathe out so proud words?

Well, I will arm me, being thus forewarn'd:
They shall have wars, and pay for their presumption.
But say, is *Warwick* friends with *Margaret*?

Post.—

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Post. Ay, gracious Sov'reign, they're so link'd in friendship,

that young Prince *Edward* marries *Warwick's* daughter.

[*Exit.*

Clar. Belike the younger; *Clarence* will have the elder.^s

Now, brother King, farewell, and sit you fast,

for I will hence to *Warwick's* other daughter;

that though I want a Kingdom, yet in Marriage may not prove inferior to yourself.

You, * that love me and *Warwick*, follow me.

[*Exit Clarence, and Somerset follows.*

Glo. Not I: my thoughts aim at a further matter:

I stay not for love of *Edward*, but the Crown. [*Aside.*

K. Edw. *Clarence* and *Somerset* both gone to *Warwick*?

What am I arm'd against the worst can happen;

and haste is needful in this desp'rate case.

Pembroke and *Stafford*, you in our behalf

to levy men, and make prepare for war;

they are already, or will soon be landed;

myself in person will straight follow you.

[*Exe. Pembroke and Stafford.*

What ere I go, *Hastings* and *Montague*,

resolve my doubt: You twain, of all the rest,

are near to *Warwick* by blood and by alliance;

tell me, if you love *Warwick* more than me?

Let it be so, then both depart to him,

rather wish you foes, than hollow friends.

What if you mind to hold your true obedience,

give me assurance with some friendly vow,

that I may never have you in suspect.

^s Belike the Elder; *Clarence* will have the Younger.] I

have ventured to make *Elder* and

Younger change Places in this

line against the Authority of All

the printed Copies. The Reason

of it will be obvious.

THEOBALD.

* You, that love me and *Warwick*, follow me.] That

Clarence should make this speech in the king's hearing is very improbable, yet I do not see how it can be palliated. The king never goes out, nor can *Clarence* be talking to a company apart, for he answers immediately to that which the *Post* says to the king.

Men.

Mon. So God help *Montague*, as he proves true!

Hast. And *Hastings*, as he favours *Edward's* Cause

K. Edw. Now, brother *Richard*, will you stand by us

Glo. Ay, in despite of all that shall withstand you

K. Edw. Why so. Then am I sure of victory.

Now therefore let us hence, and lose no hour,

'Till we meet *Warwick* with his foreign Power. [*Ex*

S C E N E III.

In Warwickshire.

Enter Warwick and Oxford, with French Soldiers.

War. **T**RUST me, my Lord, all hitherto goes well
The common people swarm by numbers to us

Enter Clarence and Somerset.

But see, where *Somerset* and *Clarence* come;

—Speak suddenly, my Lords, are we all friends?

Clar. Fear not that, my Lord.

War. Then, gentle *Clarence*, welcome unto *Warwick*
And welcome, *Somerset*. I hold it cowardise
To rest mistrustful, where a noble heart
Hath pawn'd an open hand in sign of love;
Else might I think, that *Clarence*, *Edward's* brother
Were but a feigned friend to our proceedings.
But welcome, friend, my daughter shall be thine.
And now what rests, but in * night's overture,
Thy brother being carelessly encamp'd,
His soldiers lurking in the towns about,
And but attended by a simple guard,

* — *night's overture.*] The author must, I think, have written *night's coverture*. For though *overture*, which signifies first an opening, then an offer, may likewise mean an opportunity, yet in an *overture* seems to be an improper phrase.

⁶ *His Soldiers lurking in the*

Town about.] Dr. *Thirl* advised the reading *Towns* here the Guard in the Scene immediately following says,

— but *why* commands it King,

That his chief Followers lodge in Towns about him, &c.

THEOBALD W.

We may surprize and take him at our pleasure?
 Our scouts have found th'adventure very easy;
 That as *Ulysses* and stout *Diomede*
 With slight and manhood stole to *Rhesus'* Tents,
 And brought from thence the *Thracian* fatal steeds,
 * So we, well cover'd with the night's black mantle,
 At unawares may beat down *Edward's* guard,
 And seize himself, I say not slaughter him,
 For i intend but only to surprize him.
 You, that will follow me to this attempt,
 Applaud the name of *Henry* with your leader.

[*They all cry, Henry!*]

Why then, let's on our way in silent sort,
 For *Warwick* and his friends, God and Saint *George!*

[*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E IV.

Enter the Watchmen to guard the King's Tent.

1 *Watch.* Come on, my masters, each man take his
 Stand:

The King by this has set him down to sleep.

2 *Watch.* What, will he not to bed?

1 *Watch.* Why, no; for he hath made a solemn vow;
 Never to lie and take his natural Rest,
 Till *Warwick* or himself be quite suppress.

2 *Watch.* To morrow then, belike, shall be the day;
 If *Warwick* be so near, as men report.

3 *Watch.* But say, I pray, what Nobleman is that,
 That with the King here resteth in his tent?

1 *Watch.* 'Tis the Lord *Hastings*, the King's chiefest
 friend.

3 *Watch.* O, is it so?—But why commands the King,
 That his chief followers lodge in towns about him,
 While he himself keepeth in the cold field?

2 *Watch.* 'Tis the more honour, because the more
 dangerous.

* So we, well cover'd with the night's black mantle,] This line may confirm the reading of
 coverture.

3 *Watch.*

3 Watch. Ay, but give me worship and quietude;
I like it better than a dang'rous honour.
If *Warwick* knew in what estate he stands,
'Tis to be doubted, he would waken him.

1 Watch. Unless our halberds did shut up his passage.

2 Watch. Ay; wherefore else guard we this royal tent
But to defend his person from night-foes?

*Enter Warwick, Clarence, Oxford, Somerset, and
French Soldiers, silent all.*

War. This is his tent; and see, where stands his
guard.

—Courage, my masters: honour now, or never!
But follow me, and *Edward* shall be ours.

1 Watch. Who goes there?

2 Watch. Stay, or thou diest.

[*Warwick and the rest cry all, Warwick! Warwick
and set upon the Guard; who fly, crying, Arms
Arms! Warwick and the rest following them.*

The Drum beating, and Trumpets sounding.

*Enter Warwick, Somerset, and the rest, bringing in
King out in a gown, sitting in a chair; Gloucester
Hastings flying over the Stage.*

Som. What are they that fly there?

War. *Richard* and *Hastings*. Let them go, here
the Duke.

K. Edw. The Duke! why, *Warwick*, when we parted
Thou call'dst me King?

War. Ay, but the case is alter'd.

When you disgrac'd me in my ambassade,

Then I degraded you from being King;

* And come now to create you Duke of *York*.

Alas, how should you govern any kingdom,

* *And come now to create you Duke of York.* And come to new create you D.
Duke of York.] Might we of York.
read with a slight alteration?

That know not how to use ambassadors,
Nor how to be contented with one wife,
Nor how to use your brothers brotherly,
Nor how to study for the people's welfare,
Nor how to throwd yourself from enemies ?

K. *Edw.* Brother of *Clarence*, and art thou here too ?
Nay, then I see, that *Edward* needs must down.

Yet, *Warwick*, in despight of all mischance,
Of thee thyself, and all thy complices,
Edward will always bear himself as King ;
Though fortune's malice overthrow my state,
My mind exceeds the compass of her wheel.

War. Then, for his mind, be *Edward* *England's*
King, [Takes off his Crown.

But *Henry* now shall wear the *English* crown,
And be true King, indeed ; thou but the shadow.

—My Lord of *Somerset*, at my request,
See that forthwith Duke *Edward* be convey'd
Unto my brother, archbishop of *York*.

When I have fought with *Pembroke* and his fellows,
I'll follow you, and tell you what reply
Isabel and Lady *Bona* sent to him.

—Now for a while farewell, good Duke of *York*.

K. *Edw.* What fates impose, that men must needs
abide ;

Is boots not to resist both wind and tide.

[Exit King Edward led out.

Orf. What now remains, my Lords, for us to do,
But march to *London* with our soldiers ?

War. Ay, that's the first thing that we have to do ;
To free King *Henry* from imprisonment,
And see him seated in the regal throne. [Exeunt.

S C E N E V.

*The Palace.**Enter Rivers and the Queen.*

Riv. **M**ADAM, what makes you in this sudden change?

Queen. Why, brother *Rivers*, are you yet to let What late misfortune has befallen King *Edward*?

Riv. What! loss of some pitched battle against *Warwick*?

Queen. No, but the loss of his own royal person.

Riv. Then is my sovereign slain?

Queen. Ay, almost slain, for he is taken prisoner. Either betray'd by falsehood of his guard, Or by his foe surpriz'd at unawares; And, as I further have to understand, Is now committed to the bishop of *York*, Fell *Warwick*'s brother, and by that our foe.

Riv. These news, I must confess, are full of grief. Yet, gracious Madam, bear it as you may; *Warwick* may lose, that now hath won the day.

Queen. Till then fair hope must hinder life's decay. And I the rather wean me from despair, For love of *Edward*'s off-spring in my womb, This is't, that makes me bridle in my passion, And bear with mildness my misfortune's cross; Ay, ay, for this I draw in many a tear, And stop the rising of blood-sucking sighs, Lest with my sighs or tears, I blast or drown King *Edward*'s fruit, true heir to th' *English* crown.

Riv. But, Madam, where is *Warwick* then betaken?

Queen. I am informed that he comes towards *Leicester*. To let the crown once more on *Henry*'s head: Guess thou the rest, King *Edward*'s friends must do. But to prevent the tyrant's violence,

K I N G H E N R Y VI. 195

or trust not him that once hath broken faith,
 ll hence forthwith unto the sanctuary,
 To save at least the heir of *Edward's* right.
 There shall I rest secure from force and fraud.
 Come therefore, let us fly, while we may fly ;
 If *Warwick* take us, we are sure to die: [Exeunt.

S C E N E VI.

A Park near Middleham-Castle in Yorkshire.

Enter Gloucester, Lord Hastings, and Sir William Stanley.

Glo. **N**OW, my Lord *Hastings*, and Sir *William Stanley*,
 Leave off to wonder why I drew you hither,
 Into the chiefeſt thicket of the park.
 Thus ſtands the caſe. You know, our King, my brother,
 Is priſ'ner to the biſhop, at whoſe hands,
 He hath good uſage and great liberty ;
 And often but attended with weak guard
 Comes hunting this way to diſport himſelf.
 I have advertiſ'd him by ſecret means,
 That if about this hour he make his way,
 Under the colour of his uſual game ;
 He ſhall here find his friends with horſe and men,
 To ſet him free from his captivity.

Enter King Edward and a Huntſman with him.

Hunt. This way, my Lord, for this way lies the game.

K. Edw. Nay, this way, man ; ſee where the huntſmen ſtand.

Now, brother *Gloſter*, *Hastings*, and the reſt,
 Stand you thus cloſe to ſteal the biſhop's deer ?

Glo. Brother, the time and caſe requireth haſte,
 Your horſe ſtands ready by at the park corner.

K. *Edw.* But whither shall we then?

Hast. To *Lyn*, my Lord,

And ship from thence to *Flanders*.

Glo. Well guess'd, believe me, for that was my meaning.

K. *Edw.* *Stanley*, I will requite thy forwardness.

Glo. But wherefore stay we? 'tis no time to talk.

K. *Edw.* Huntsman, what say'st thou? wilt thou go along?

Hunt. Better do so, than tarry and be hang'd,

Glo. Come then away, let's ha' no more ado.

K. *Edw.* Bishop, farewell; shield thee from *Warwick's* frown;

And pray that I may repossess the crown. [Exit.

S C E N E VII.

Changes to the Tower in London.

Enter King Henry, Clarence, Warwick, Somerset, young Richmond, Oxford, Montague, and Lieutenant of the Tower.

K. *Henry.* **M**R. Lieutenant, now that God and friends

Have shaken *Edward* from the regal seat,

And turn'd my captive state to liberty,

My fear to hope, my sorrows unto joys,

At our enlargement what are thy due fees?

Lieu. Subjects may challenge nothing of their sovereigns,

But if an humble prayer may prevail,

I then crave pardon of your Majesty.

K. *Henry.* For what, lieutenant? for well using me?

Nay, be thou sure, I'll well requite thy kindness,

For that it made my imprisonment a pleasure;

Ay, such a pleasure as incaged birds

Conceive, when after many moody thoughts,

At last, by notes of household harmony,

They quite forget their loss of liberty.

—But

-But *Warwick*, after God, thou sett'st me free,
and chiefly therefore I thank God and thee,
He was the author, thou the instrument.

Therefore that I may conquer fortune's spight,
By living low, where fortune cannot hurt me;
And that the people of this blessed land

May not be punish'd with my thwarting stars;
Warwick, although my head still wear the crown,
Here resign my government to thee,
For thou art fortunate in all thy deeds.

War. Your grace has still been fam'd for virtuous,
And now may seem as wise as virtuous,
For spying and avoiding fortune's malice;
For few men rightly temper with the stars; '7
Yet in this one thing let me blame your Grace,
For chusing me, when *Clarence* is in place.

Clar. No, *Warwick*, thou art worthy of the sway,
To whom the heav'ns in thy nativity
Judg'd an olive branch and lawrel crown,
Is likely to be blest in peace and war;
And therefore I yield thee my free consent.

War. And I chuse *Clarence* only for protector.

K. Henry. *Warwick* and *Clarence*, give me both your
hands;

Now join your hands and with your hands, your hearts;
That no dissention hinder government
Make you both protectors of this land,
While I myself will lead a private life,
And in devotion spend my latter days
To sin's rebuke and my Creator's praise.

War. What answers *Clarence* to his sov'reign's will?

Clar. That he consents, if *Warwick* yield consent;
For on thy fortune I repose myself.

War. Why then, though loth, yet must I be content:

[— *few men rightly temper with the stars*;] I suppose when finding himself unfortunate he gave the management of publick affairs to more prosperous hands.
: meaning is, that few men reform their temper to their decay, which King *Henry* did,

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We'll yoke together, like a double shadow
To *Henry's* body, and supply his place ;
I mean, in bearing weight of government,
While he enjoys the honour, and his ease.
And, *Clarence*, now then it is more than needful,
Forthwith that *Edward* be pronounc'd a traitor ;
And all his lands and goods confiscated.

Clar. What else ? and that succession be determin'd.

War. Ay, therein *Clarence* shall not want his part.

K. Henry. But with the first of all our chief affairs
I let me intreat, for I command no more,
That *Margaret* your Queen and my son *Edward*
Be sent for, to return from *France* with speed.
For till I see them here, by doubtful fear
My joy of liberty is half eclips'd.

Clar. It shall be done, my sov'reign, with all speed.

K. Henry. My Lord of *Somerset*, what youth is it
Of whom you seem to have so tender care ?

Som. My Liege, it is young *Henry*, Earl of *Richmond*.

K. Henry. Come hither, *England's* hope : if he
powers [Lays his hand on his breast]

Suggest but truth to my divining thoughts,

* This pretty lad will prove our country's bliss.

His looks are full of peaceful majesty,

His head by nature fram'd to wear a crown,

His hand to wield a scepter, and himself

Likely in time to bless a regal throne.

Make much of him, my Lords ; for this is he

Must help you more, than you are hurt by me.

Enter a Post.

War. What news, my friend ?

Post. That *Edward* is escaped from your brother
And fled, as he hears since, to *Burgundy*.

* This pretty lad.] He was afterwards *Henry VII.* A man who put an end to the civil war of the two houses, but not otherwise remarkable for virtue. *Shakespeare* knew his trade. *Henry VII.* was Grandfather to *Queen Elizabeth*, and the from whom *James* inherits the crown.

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Unfavorable news ; but how made he escape ?
 He was convey'd by *Richard* Duke of *Glo'ster*,
 and *Lord Hastings*, who attended him
 at ambush on the forest-side,
 from the bishops huntsmen rescu'd him ;
 hunting was his daily exercise.
 My brother was too careless of his charge.
 Let us hence, my sovereign, to provide
 for any fore that may betide. [Exeunt.

Manet Somerset, Richmond, and Oxford.

My Lord, I like not of this flight of *Edward's* :
 doubtless, *Burgundy* will yield him help,
 we shall have more wars before't be long.
Henry's late presaging prophesy
 in my heart, with hope of this young *Richmond*;
 in my heart misgive me, in these conflicts
 may befall him, to his harm and ours.
 Before, Lord *Oxford*, to prevent the worst,
 with we'll send him hence to *Britany*,
 arms be past of civil enmity.
 Ay, for if *Edward* re-possess the crown:
 we see that *Richmond* with the rest shall down.
 It shall be so ; he shall to *Britany*.
 therefore let's about it speedily. [Exeunt.

S C E N E VIII.

Changes to York.

King Edward, Gloucester, Hastings, and soldiers.

NOW, brother *Richard*, *Hastings*, and the
 rest,
 thus far fortune maketh us amends,
 says, that once more I shall interchange
 my state for *Henry's* regal crown.
 have we pass'd, and now repass'd the seas,

And brought desired help from *Burgundy*.
 What then remains we being thus arriv'd
 From *Ravenespurg*, before the gates of *York*,
 But that we enter, as into our Dukedom?

Glo. The gates made fast! Brother, I like not this.
 For many men, that stumble at the threshold,
 Are well foretold that danger lurks within.

K. Edw. Tush! man, aboadments must not now
 affright us:
 By fair or foul means we must enter in,
 For hither will our friends repair to us.

Hast. My Liege, I'll knock once more to summon
 them.

Enter on the walls, the Mayor of York and his Brethren

Mayor. My Lords, we were forewarned of your
 coming,
 And shut the gates for safety of ourselves;
 For now we owe allegiance unto *Henry*.

K. Edw. But, master Mayor, if *Henry* be your King,
 Yet *Edward*, at the least, is Duke of *York*,

Mayor. True, my good Lord, I know you for no
 less.

K. Edw. Why, and I challenge nothing but my
 Dukedom;
 As being well content with that alone.

Glo. But when the fox has once got in his nose,
 He'll soon find means to make the Body follow. [*Aside.*

Hast. Why, master Mayor, why stand you in a doubt?
 Open the gates. We are King *Henry*'s friends.

Mayor. Ay, say you so? the gates shall then be
 open'd. [*He descends.*

Glo. A wise stout captain, and persuaded soon!

Hast. The good old man would fain that all were
 well,^s

^s *The good old man would fain* mavor is willing we should enter
that all were well. The to he may not be blamed.

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so 'twere not 'long of him ; but being entered,
I doubt not, I, but we shall soon persuade
Both him and all his brothers unto reason.

Enter the Mayor, and two Aldermen.

K. Edw. So master Mayor, these gates must not
be shut
But in the night, or in the time of war.
What, fear not, man, but yield me up the keys ;
[Takes his keys,
for Edward will defend the town and thee,
And all those friends that deign to follow me.

March. Enter Montgomery with Drum and Soldiers.

Glo. Brother this is Sir John Montgomery,
our trusty friend, unless I be deceiv'd.

K. Edw. Welcome, Sir John ; but why come you in
arms ?

Montg. To help King Edward in his time of storm,
every loyal subject ought to do.

K. Edw. Thanks, good Montgom'ry ; but we now
forget

our title to the crown, and only claim
our Dukedom, till God please to send the rest.

Montg. Then fare you well, for I will hence again ;
came to serve a King, and not a Duke.

—Drummer, strike up, and let us march away.

[The Drum begins a March,

K. Edw. Nay, stay, Sir John, a while ; and we'll
debate,

what safe means the crown may be recover'd.

Montg. What talk you of debating ? in few words,
you'll not here proclaim yourself our King,
I'll leave you to your fortune, and be gone
To keep them back that come to succour you.
Why shall we fight if you pretend no title ?

Glo.

Glo. Why brother, wherefore stand you on nice points?

K. Edw. When we grow stronger, then we'll make our claim:

'Till then, 'tis wisdom to conceal our meaning.

Hast. Away with scrupulous wit, now arms must rule.

Glo. And fearless minds climb soonest unto crowns.
—Brother, we will proclaim you out of hand,
The bruit thereof will bring you many friends.

K. Edw. Then be it, as you will, for 'tis my right,
And *Henry* but usurps the diadem.

Mont. Ay, now my Sov'reign speaketh like himself:

And now will I be *Edward's* champion.

Hast. Sound, trumpet, *Edward* shall be here proclaimed:

Come, fellow-foldier, make thou proclamation.

[*Flourish*]
Sold. *Edward the fourth, by the grace of God, King of England and France, and Lord of Ireland, &c.*

Mont. And whosoe'er gain-says King *Edward* right,

By this I challenge him to single fight.

[*Throws down his Gannet*]

All. Long live *Edward* the fourth!

K. Edw. Thanks, brave *Montgomery*; and thanks to all.

If fortune serve me, I'll requite this kindness.

Now, for this night, let's harbour here in *York*,

And when the morning sun shall raise his car

Above the border of this horizon,

We'll forward towards *Warwick*, and his mates;

For well I wot, that *Henry* is no soldier.

Ah, froward *Clarence*, evil it beseems thee

To flatter *Henry*, and forsake thy brother!

Yet as we may, we'll meet both thee and *Warwick*.

on, brave soldiers, doubt not of the day,
that once gotten, doubt not of large pay.

[*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E IX.

Changes again to London.

King Henry, Warwick, Montague, Clarence,
Oxford, and Somerset.

WHAT counsel, Lords? *Edward from*
Belgia,

hasty *Germans*, and blunt *Hollanders*,
passed in safety through the narrow seas;
with his troops doth march again to *London*;
many giddy people flock to him.

Henry. ' Let's levy men and beat him back again.

r. A little fire is quickly trodden out,
th being suffer'd, rivers cannot quench.

w. In *Warwickshire* I have true hearted friends,
nutinous in peace, yet bold in war,

he will I muster up; and thou, son *Clarence*,

stir, in *Suffolk*, *Norfolk*, and in *Kent*,
knights and gentlemen to come with thee,

i, brother *Montague*, in *Buckingham*,
Hampton, and in *Leicestershire*, shalt find

well inclin'd to hear what thou command'st.

thou, brave *Oxford*, wondrous well belov'd,

Oxfordshire shalt muster up thy friends.

Sov'reign, with the loving citizens,

to his island girt with th' ocean,

Let's levy men and beat him
back again.] This line ex-
presses a spirit of war so unsuit-
able to the character of *Henry*,
I would give the first cold
sh to the King, and the brisk

answer to *Warwick*. This line
is not in the old quarto, and
when *Henry* said nothing, the first
speech might be as properly
given to *Warwick* as to any
other.

Or

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Or modest *Dian* circled with her nymphs,
Shall rest in *London*, 'till we come to him?

—Fair Lords, take leave, and stand not to reply.

—Farewel, my Sovereign.

K. Henry. Farewel, my *Heitor* and my *Troy's* true hope.

Clar. In sign of truth, I kiss your highness' hand.

K. Henry. Well-minded *Clarence*, be thou fortunate!

Mont. Comfort, my Lord. And so I take my leave.

Oxf. [*Kissing Henry's hand.*] And thus I seal my truth, and bid adieu.

K. Henry. Sweet *Oxford*, and my loving *Montagu*,
And all at once, once more a happy farewel.

War. Farewel, sweet Lords; let's meet at *Cowenry*.
[*Exeunt.*]

K. Henry. Here at the palace will I rest a while.

Cousin of *Exeter*, what thinks your Lordship:

Methinks, the pow'r, that *Edward* hath in field,

Should not be able to encounter mine.

Exe. The doubt is, that he will seduce the rest.

K. Henry. That's not my fear, ' my meed hath got me fame;

I have not stopt mine ears to their demands,

Nor posted off their suits with slow delays,

My pity hath been balm to heal their wounds,

My mildness hath allay'd their swelling griefs,

My mercy dried their water flowing tears.

I have not been desirous of their wealth,

Nor much oppress'd them with great subsidies,

Nor forward of revenge, though they much err'd.

Then why should they love *Edward* more than me;

No, *Exeter*, these graces challenge grace,

And when the lion fawns upon the lamb,

' —My MEED hath got me fame:] Meed signifies reward. We should read my DEED, i. e. my manners, conduct in the administration.
WARBURTON.

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umb will never cease to follow him.

[*Shouts within. A Lancaster! a Lancaster!*
Hark, hark, my Lord, what shouts are these?

Enter King Edward, and his Soldiers.

Edw. Seize on the shame-fac'd *Henry*, bear him hence,

ice again proclaim us King of *England*.

are the fount that makes small brooks to flow,

ops thy spring, my sea shall suck them dry,

tell so much the higher by their ebb.

et with him to the *Tower*, let him not speak.

[*Ex. with King Henry.*

Lords, to *Coventry* bend we our course,

peremptory *Warwick* now remains.

is flines hot; and if we use delay,

iting winter mars our hop'd for hay.

Away betimes, before his forces join,

ke the great-grown traitor unawares:

varriors, march amain tow'rds *Coventry*.

[*Exeunt.*

t within. A Lancaster!

he shouts that ushered

ward should be a *York*,

I suppose the authour

did not write the marginal directions, and the players con-founded the characters.

A C T

THE THIRD PART OF
ACT V. SCENE I.

Before the Town of Coventry.

Enter Warwick, the Mayor of Coventry, two Messengers and others, upon the walls.

WARWICK.

WHERE is the Post, that came from *valiant Oxford*?

How far hence is thy Lord, mine honest fellow?

1 *Mes.* By this at *Dunsmore*, marching hither-ward
War. How far off is our brother *Montague*?

—Where is the Post, that came from *Montague*?

2 *Mes.* By this at *Daintry*, with a puissant troop.

Enter Somerville.

War. Say, *Somerville*, what says my loving son?
And by thy guess how nigh is *Clarence* now?

Somerv. At *Southam* I did leave him with his forces,
And do expect him here some two hours hence.

War. Then *Clarence* is at hand, I hear his drum.

Somerv. It is not his, my Lord; here *Southam* lies.
The drum your Honour hears, marcheth from *Warwick*.

War. Who should that be? belike, unlook'd for friends.

Somerv. They are at hand, and you shall quickly know.

March. Flourish. Enter King Edward, Gloucester, and Soldiers.

K. *Edw.* Go, trumpet to the walls, and sound a parle.

Glo.

Glo. See how the surly *Warwick* mans the wall.

War. Oh, unbid spight! is sportful *Edward* come?
 Were slept our scouts, or how are they seduc'd,
 That we could hear no news of his repair?

K. Edw. Now, *Warwick*, wilt thou ope the city-gates,

Speak gentle words, and humbly bend thy knee,
 To *Edward* King, and at his hands beg mercy,
 And he shall pardon thee these outrages.

War. Nay, rather, wilt thou draw thy forces hence,
 And leave me who set thee up, and pluck'd thee down?

K. Edw. *Warwick* patron, and be penitent,
 And thou shalt still remain the Duke of *York*.

Glo. I thought, at least, he would have said the
 King;

Did he make the jest against his will?

War. Is not a Dukedom, Sir, a goodly gift?

Glo. Ay, by my faith, for a poor Earl to give;
 I do thee service for so good a gift.

War. 'Twas I that gave the Kingdom to thy brother.

K. Edw. Why, then 'tis mine, if but by *Warwick's*
 gift.

War. Thou art no *Atlas* for so great a weight,
 And, Weakling, *Warwick* takes his gift again;
 And *Henry* is my King, *Warwick* his subject.

K. Edw. But *Warwick's* King is *Edward's* prisoner;
 And, gallant *Warwick*, do but answer this,
 What is the body when the head is off?

Glo. Alas! that *Warwick* had no more fore-cast,
 That while he thought to steal the single ten,
 The King was sily finger'd from the Deck.
 Thou left poor *Henry* at the Bishop's palace,
 And ten to one you'll meet him in the *Tower*.

K. Edw. 'Tis even so; yet you are *Warwick* still.

Glo. Come, *Warwick*, take the time, kneel down,
 Kneel down,

Say, when? Strike now, or else the iron cools.

War. I'd rather chop this hand off at a blow,

And

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And with the other fling it at thy face,
Than bear so low a sail, to strike to thee.

K. *Edw.* Sail, how thou canst; have wind and tide
thy friend;
This hand fast wound about thy coal-black hair
Shall, while thy head is warm and new cut off,
Write in the dust this sentence with thy blood;
Wind-changing Warwick now can change no more.

SCENE II.

Enter Oxford, with drum and colours.

War. O chearful colours! see, where *Oxford* comes!

Oxf. *Oxford! Oxford!* for *Lancaster!*

Glo. The gates are open, let us enter too.

K. *Edw.* So other foes may set upon our backs.
Stand we in good array; for they, no doubt,
Will issue out again and bid us battle:
If not, the city being of small defence,
We'll quickly rouse the traitors in the same.

War. O, welcome, *Oxford!* for we want thy help.

Enter Montague, with drum and colours.

Mont. *Montague! Montague!* for *Lancaster!*

Glo. Thou and thy brother both, shall buy this
treason

Ev'n with the dearest blood your bodies bear.

K. *Edw.* The harder match'd, the greater victory.
My mind prefageth happy gain and conquest.

Enter Somerset, with drum and colours.

Som. *Somerset! Somerset!* for *Lancaster;*

Glo. Two of thy name, both Dukes of *Somerset,*
Have sold their lives unto the House of *York,*
And thou shalt be the third, if this sword hold.

Enter

Enter Clarence, with drum and colours:

War. And lo! where George of Clarence sweeps
along,

force enough to bid his brother battle,
in whom an upright zeal to right prevails
more than the nature of a brother's love.

*Clarence, come; thou wilt, if Warwick call—
[Parley is sounded; Richard and Clarence whisper
together; and then Clarence takes his red rose out of
his hat, and throws it at Warwick.]*¹

War. Father of Warwick, know you what this
means?

Cl. Here, I throw my infamy at thee.

I will not ruin my father's house,

nor gave his blood * to lime the stones together,

nor set up Lancaster. Why, trow'st thou, Warwick,

that Clarence is so harsh, so † blunt, unnatural,

and the fatal instruments of war

against his brother, and his lawful King?

Alas, thou wilt object my holy oath;

but keep that oath were more impiety,

than Jephthah's, when he sacrific'd his daughter.

I am so sorry for my trespass made,

and, to deserve well at my brother's hands,

I do proclaim myself thy mortal foe;

and resolution, wheresoe'er I meet thee,

I will meet thee, if thou stir abroad,

and plague thee for thy foul mis-leading me.

So, proud-hearted Warwick, I defy thee,

and to my brother turn my blushing cheeks.

Forgive me, Edward, I will make amends;

¹ *Parley is sounded, &c.]*

Note of Direction I restore

from the old Quarto. And,

but it, it is impossible that

the Reader can guess at the

meaning of this Line of Cla-

rence;

OL. V.

*Look, here, I throw my Infamy
at Thee.* THEOBALD.

* — to lime the stones] That
is, to cement the stones. Lime
makes mortar.

† *Blunt.*] Stupid, insensible
of paternal fondness.

P

And

And, *Richard*, do not frown upon my faults,
For I will henceforth be no more unconstant.

K. Edw. Now welcome more, and ten times more
belov'd,

Than if thou never hadst deserv'd our hate.

Glo. Welcome, good *Clarence*, this is brother-like.

War. O * passing traitor, perjur'd and unjust!

K. Edw. What *Warwick*, wilt thou leave the town
and fight?

Or shall we beat the stones about thine ears?

War. Alas, I am not coop'd here for defence:

I will away towards *Barnet* presently,

And bid thee battle, *Edward*, if thou dar'st.

K. Edw. Yes, *Warwick*, *Edward* dares, and leads
the way.

—Lords, to the field; *St. George* and victory! [*Exeunt.*]

March. *Warwick* and his Company follow.

S C E N E III.

A Field of Battle near Barnet.

*Alarm and Excursions. Enter Edward, bringing forth
Warwick wounded.*

K. Edw. SO, lie thou there: die thou, and die our
Fear;

* For *Warwick* was a bug, that scar'd us all.

Now, *Montague*, sit fast, I seek for thee;

That *Warwick*'s bones may keep thine company. [*Exit.*]

War. Ah, who is nigh? come to me friend, or foe,

And tell me, who is victor, *York*, or *Warwick*?

Why ask I that? my mangled body shows,

My blood, my want of strength, my sick heart shows,

That I must yield my body to the earth,

And, by my Fall, the Conquest to my foe.

* *Passing.*] Eminent, egregi-
ous; traitorous beyond the com-
mon track of treason.

* For *Warwick* was a bugth
scar'd us all.] Bug is a Bugth
a terrific being.

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fields the Cedar to the ax's edge,
 arms gave shelter to the princely eagle,
 whose shade the ramping lion slept,
 top branch over-peer'd *Jove's* spreading tree,
 apt low shrubs from winter's pow'rful wind.
 eyes, that now are dim'd with death's black veil,
 been as piercing as the mid-day Sun,
 reach the secret treasons of the world.
 wrinkles in my brow, now fill'd with blood,
 lik'ned oft to kingly sepulchres,
 no liv'd King, but I could dig his grave?
 who durst smile, when *Warwick* bent his brow?
 now my glory smear'd in dust and blood.
 parks, my walks, my manors that I had,
 now forsake me; and of all my lands
 nothing left me, but my body's length.
 what is pomp, rule, reign, but earth and dust?
 live we how we can, yet die we must.

Enter Oxford and Somerset.

. Ah, *Warwick, Warwick*, wert thou as we are,
 might recover all our loss again;
 Queen from *France* hath brought a puissant Pow'r;
 now we heard the news. Ah, could'st thou fly!
 r. Why, then I would not fly.—Ah, *Montague*,
 be there, sweet brother, take my hand,
 with thy lips keep in my soul a while.
 lov'st me not; for, brother, if thou didst,
 tears would wash this cold congealed blood,
 glews my lips, and will not let me speak.
 quickly, *Montague*, or I am dead.
 i. Ah, *Warwick, Montague* hath breath'd his last,
 o the latest gasp cry'd out for *Warwick*,
 said, Commend me to my valiant brother.
 more he would have said, and more he spoke,

des cœmptis salibus, et de- manours diminishes the pathetick
o, Villâque. HOR. effect of the foregoing lines.
 mention of his parks and

^s Which sounded like a clamour in a vault,
That might not be distinguish'd ; but at last
I well might hear deliver'd with a groan,
O, farewell, *Warwick* !——

War. Sweetly rest his soul !

Fly, Lords, and save yourselves ; for *Warwick* bids
You all farewell, to meet again in heav'n. [*Dies*]

Oxf. Away, away, to meet the Queen's great power
[*They bear away his Body, and Exit*]

SCENE IV.

Changes to another Part of the Field.

Flourish. Enter King Edward in triumph ; with Gloucester, Clarence, and the rest.

K. Edw. **T**HUS far our fortune keeps an upward
course,

And we are grac'd with wreaths of victory.
But, in the midst of this bright-shining day,
I spy a black, suspicious, threat'ning cloud,
That will encounter with our glorious Sun,
Ere he attain his easeful western bed ;
I mean, my Lords, those Powers, that the Queen
Hath rais'd in *Gallia*, have arriv'd our Coast,
And, as we hear, march on to fight with us.

Clar. A little gale will soon disperse that cloud,
And blow it to the source from whence it came ;
Thy very beams will dry those vapours up,
For every cloud engenders not a storm.

Glo. The Queen is valued thirty thousand strong,

^s Which sounded like a CAN-
NON in a vault,] The old
quarto reads CLAMOUR, which
is undoubtedly right, i. e. a cla-
mour of tongues, which, as he
says, could not be distinguish'd.

This was a pertinent similitude:
The other absurd, and neither
agrees with what is predicated of
it, nor with what it is intended
to illustrate. WARBURTON.

Somerſet with *Oxford*, fled to her.

hath time to breathe, be well affur'd,
faction will be full as ſtrong as ours.

Edw. We are advertiſ'd by our loving friends,
they do hold their courſe tow'rd *Tewksbury*.

aving now the beſt at *Barnet* field,
thither ſtraight; for willingneſs rids way;
as we march, our ſtrength will be augmented
ery county as we go along.

up the Drum, cry, — Courage, and away. [*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E V.

Changes to Tewksbury.

*b. Enter the Queen, Prince of Wales, Somerſet,
Oxford, and Soldiers.*

1. **G**REAT Lords, wiſe men ne'er ſit and wail
their loſs,

heavily ſeek how to redreſs their arms.

t though the maſt be now blown over-board,

cable broke, the holding anchor loſt,

half our ſailors ſwallow'd in the flood?

ives our Pilot ſtill; is't meet, that he

ld leave the helm, and, like a fearful lad,

tear-full eyes add water to the ſea;

give more ſtrength to that which hath too much,

e in his moan the ſhip ſplits on the rock,

h induſtry and courage might have ſav'd?

what a ſhame! ah, what a fault were this!

Warwick was our anchor; what of that?

Montague our top-maſt; what of him?

laughter'd friends, the tackle; what of theſe?

, is not *Oxford* here another anchor?

Somerſet another goodly maſt?

friends of *France* our ſhrouds and tackling ſtill?

though unſkilful, why not *Ned* and I

For once allow'd the skilful pilot's charge?
 We will not from the helm to sit and weep,
 But keep our course, though the rough wind say, No,
 From shelves and rocks that threaten us with wreck.
 As good to chide the waves, as speak them fair;
 And what is *Edward*, but a ruthless sea?
 What *Clarence*, but a quick sand of deceit?
 And *Richard*, but a ragged fatal rock?
 All these the enemies to our poor Bark.
 Say you can swim, alas, 'tis but a while;
 Tread on the sand, why, there you quickly sink:
 Bestride the rock, the tide will wash you off,
 Or else you famish, that's a three-fold death.
 This speak I, Lords, to let you understand,
 In case some one of you would fly from us,
 That there's no hop'd-for mercy with the brothers,
 More than with ruthless waves, with sands, and rocks.
 Why, courage, then! what cannot be avoided,
 'Twere childish weakness to lament, or fear.

Prince. Methinks, a woman of this valiant spirit
 Should, if a coward heard her speak these words,
 Infuse his breast with magnanimity,
 And make him naked, foil a man at arms.
 I speak not this, as doubting any here,
 For did I but suspect a fearful man,
 He should have leave to go away betimes;
 Lest, in our Need, he might infect another,
 And make him of like spirit to himself.
 If any such be here, as, God forbid!
 Let him depart before we need his help.

Oxf. Women and children of so high a courage!
 And warriors faint! why, 'twere perpetual shame.
 Oh, brave young Prince! thy famous Grandfather
 Doth live again in thee; long may'st thou live,
 To bear his image, and renew his glories!

Som. And he, that will not fight for such a hope,
 Go home to bed, and, like the owl by day,
 If he arise, be mock'd and wonder'd at.

Queen. Thanks, gentle *Somerfet* ; sweet *Oxford*, thanks.

Prince. And take his thanks, that yet hath nothing else.

Enter a Messenger.

Mess. Prepare you, Lords, for *Edward* is at hand, Ready to fight ; therefore be resolute.

Oxf. I thought no less ; it is his policy, To haste thus fast to find us unprovided.

Som. But he's deceiv'd ; we are in readiness.

Queen. This cheers my heart, to see your forwardness,

Oxf. Here pitch our battle, hence we will not budge.

SCENE VI.

March. Enter King Edward, Gloucester, Clarence, and Soldiers, on the other side of the stage.

* *K. Edw.* Brave followers, yonder stands the thorny wood,

Which, by the heav'n's assistance and your strength, Must by the roots be hewn up yet ere night.

I need not add more fuel to your fire,

For, well I wot, ye blaze to burn them out.

Give signal to the fight, and to it, Lords.

Queen. Lords, Knights, and Gentlemen, what I should say,

My tears gainsay, for every word I speak,

Ye see, I drink the water of my eye ;

Therefore no more but this : *Henry*, your Sov'reign,

Is pris'ner to the foe, his State usurp'd,

His Realm a slaughter-house, his Subjects slain,

His Statutes cancell'd, and his Treasure spent,

And yonder is the wolf that makes this spoil.

You fight in justice ; then, in God's name, Lords,

Be valiant, and give signal to the battle.

* *K. Edw.* *Brave followers, &c.*] This scene is ill contrived, in which the king and queen appear at once on the

stage at the head of opposite armies. It had been easy to make one retire before the other entered.

Alarm. Retreat. Excursions. Both Parties go out
Re-Enter King Edward, Gloucester, Clarence, &c. The
Queen, Oxford, and Somerset, Prisoners.

K. Edw. Now here's a period of tumultuous broils.
 Away with *Oxford* to *Hammes-castle* straight;
 For *Somerset*, off with his guilty head.

—Go, bear them hence; I will not hear them speak.

Oxf. For my part, I'll not trouble thee with words.

Som. Nor I, but stoop with patience to my fortune.

[*Exeunt.*]

Queen. So part we sadly in this troublous world,
 To meet with joy in sweet *Jerusalem*.

K. Edw. Is Proclamation made that who finds
Edward,

Shall have a high reward, and he his life?

Glo. It is, and lo where youthful *Edward* comes.

Enter the Prince of Wales.

K. Edw. Bring forth the Gallant, let us hear him
 speak.

—What can so young a thorn begin to prick?

Edward, what satisfaction canst thou make,
 For bearing arms, for stirring up my Subjects,
 And all the trouble thou hast turn'd me to?

Prince. Speak like a Subject, proud ambitious *York*,
 Suppose that I am now my father's mouth;
 Resign thy Chair; and where I stand, kneel thou,
 Whilst I propose the self-same words to thee,
 Which, Traitor, thou wouldst have me answer to.

Queen. Ah! that thy father had been so resolv'd!

Glo. That you might still have worn the petticoat,
 And ne'er have stoln the breech from *Lancaster*.

Prince. Let ⁶ *Æsop* fable in a winter's night,

⁶ *Let Æsop, &c.*] The prince calls *Richard*, for his crookedness, *Æsop*; and the poet, following nature, makes *Richard* highly incensed at the reproach

arrish riddles fort not with this place.

. By heav'n, Brat, I'll plague ye for that word.

Ken. Ay, thou wast born to be a plague to men.

. For God's sake, take away this captive scold.

ince. Nay, take away this scolding crook-back rather.

Edw. Peace, wilful boy, or I will charm your tongue.

a. Untutor'd lad, thou art too malapert.

ince. I know my duty, you're undutiful:

vious *Edward*, and thou perjur'd *George*,

thou mis-shapen *Dick*, I tell ye all,

your Better, Traitors as ye are,

thou usurp'st my Father's Right and mine.

lo. Take that, * thou likeness of this railer here.

[*Stabs him.*

. *Edw.* And take thou that, to end thy agony.

[*Edw. stabs him.*

a. And there's for twitting me with perjury.

[*Clar. stabs him.*

uen. Oh, kill me too!

lo. Marry, and shall—— [Offers to kill her.

. *Edw.* Hold, *Richard*, hold; for we have done too much.

lo. Why should she live, to fill the world with words?

. *Edw.* What? doth she swoon? use means for her recov'ry.

lo. *Clarence*, excuse me to the King my brother;

ence to *London* on a serious matter.

ye come there, be sure to hear some news.

a. What? what?

lo. The *Tower*, man, the *Tower*!— I'll root 'em out. [Exit.

uen. Oh *Ned*! sweet *Ned*! speak to thy mother, Boy.

thou not speak? O traitors, murderers!

y, that stabb'd *Cæsar*, shed no blood at all;

—thou likeness of this railer here.] Thou that resemblest thy mother,

Did

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Did not offend, and were not worthy blame,
If this foul deed were by, to equal it.
He was a man; this (in respect) a child;
And men ne'er spend their fury on a child.
What's worse than murderer, that I may name it?
No, no, my heart will burst, and if I speak——
And I will speak, that so my heart may burst.
Butchers and villains, bloody cannibals,
How sweet a plant have you untimely cropt!
You have no children, Butchers; if you had,
The thought of them would have stirr'd up remorse;
But if you ever chance to have a child,
Look in his youth to have him so cut off;
As, Deathsmen! * you have rid this sweet young Prince.

K. Edw. Away with her, go bear her hence by force.

Queen. Nay, never bear me hence, dispatch me here,
Here sheath thy sword, I'll pardon thee my death.
What, wilt thou not? Then, *Clarence*, do it thou.

Cla. By heav'n, I will not do thee so much eale.

Queen. Good *Clarence*, do; sweet *Clarence*, do thou do it.

Cla. Didst thou not hear me swear I would not do it?

Queen. Ay, but thou usest to forswear thyself.

† 'Twas sin before, but now 'tis charity.

What, wilt thou not? Where is that Devil's butcher,
Richard? hard-favour'd *Richard*, where art thou?

Thou art not here; Murder is thy Alms-deed,
Petitioner for blood thou ne'er put'st back.

* — *you have rid this sweet young Prince.*] The condition of this warlike queen would move compassion could it be forgotten that she gave *York*, to wipe his eyes in his captivity, a handkerchief stained with his young child's blood.

† *'Twas sin.*] She alludes to the desertion of *Clarence*.

7 — *Where is that Devil's Butcher,* *Richard*?] Thus all the Editions. But *Devil's Butcher*, in other

Terms, I think, is *Kill-devil*: rare News for the *Free-Thinkers* if there were any Grounds for depending on it. But the Poet certainly wrote *devil-Butcher*; and the first Part of the Compound is to be taken adjectively meaning, *execrable, infernal, devilish*.

THEOBALD.
Devil's butcher is a butcher set on by the devil. Either reading may serve, without so long a note.

K. Edw.

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Edw. Away, I say; I charge ye, bear her hence.
een. So come to you and yours, as to this Prince.

[*Exit Queen.*]

Edw. Where's *Richard* gone?

a. To *London* all in post; and, as I guess,
 make a bloody supper in the *Tower*.

Edw. He's sudden, if a thing comes in his
 head.

March we hence, discharge the common sort
 with pay and thanks, and let's away to *London*,
 I see our gentle *Queen*, how well she fares,
 this, I hope, she hath a son for me. [*Exeunt,*]

SCENE VII.

Changes to the Tower of London,

*King Henry with a book, and Gloucester, with
 the Lieutenant on the Tower Walls.*

GOOD day, my Lord; what at your book
 so hard?

L. Henry. Ay, my good Lord; my Lord, I should
 say rather;

to sin to flatter, *good* was little better;
 and *Glo'ster*, and good devil, were alike,
 and both preposterous, therefore not good Lord.

Ho. Sir, leave us to ourselves, we must confer.

[*Exit Lieutenant,*]

L. Henry. So flies the reckless shepherd from the
 wolf.

First the harmless flock doth yield his fleece,
 and next his throat unto the butcher's knife.

What scene of death hath *Roscus* now to act?

What scene of death hath Roscius now to act?
Roscus and of *Rome*; but did
 not know that he was an Actor
 in Comedy, not in Tragedy.
 WARBURTON.
was certainly put for
ard by some simple conceit-
player, who had heard of

Glo,

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Glo. Suspicion always haunts the guilty mind;
The thief doth fear each bush an officer.

K. Henry. The bird, that hath been limed in a bush,
With trembling wings mis-doubteth ev'ry bush;
And I, the hapless male to one sweet bird,
Have now the fatal object in my eye,
Where my poor young was lim'd, was caught, and kill'd.

Glo. Why what a ⁹ peevish fool was that of *Crete*,
That taught his son the office of a fowl?
And yet, for all his wings, the fool was drown'd,

K. Henry. I, *Dædalus*, my poor boy, *Icarus*;
Thy father, *Minos* that deny'd our course;
The Sun, that fear'd the wings of my sweet boy,
Thy brother *Edward*; and thyself, the sea,
Whose envious gulph did swallow up his life.

Ah, kill me with thy weapon, not with words;
My breast can better brook thy dagger's point,
Than can my ears that tragic history.

—But wherefore dost thou come? Is't for my life?

Glo. Think'st thou I am an executioner?

K. Henry. A persecutor, I am sure thou art;
If murd'ring innocents be executing,
Why then thou art an executioner.

Glo. Thy son I kill'd for his presumption.

K. Henry. Hadst thou been kill'd, when first thou
didst presume,

Thou hadst not liv'd to kill a son of mine.

And thus I prophesy, that many a thousand,

¹ Which now mistrust no parcel of my fear,

And many an old man's sigh, and many a widow's,

And many an orphan's water-standing eye,

Men for their sons, wives for their husbands fate,

And orphans for their parents' timeless death.

⁹ *Peevish* fool] As *peevish-*
ness is the quality of children,
peevish seems to signify *childish*,
and by consequence *illy*. *Peevish*
is explained by *childish*, in a for-

mer note of Dr. Warburton.

¹ Which now mistrust no parcel
of my fear.] Who suspect
no part of what my fears pre-
sage.

hall rue the hour that ever thou wast born,
 'he owl shriek'd at thy birth, an evil sign,
 'he night-crow cry'd, a boding luckless Tune,
 ogs howl'd, and hideous tempest shook down trees,
 The raven rook'd her on the chimney's top,
 nd chattering pyes in dismal discord sung:
 'hy mother felt more than a mother's pain,
 nd yet brought forth less than a mother's hope.
 'ow wit, an indigested deform'd lump,
 lot like the fruit of such a goodly tree.
 'eeth hadst thou in thy head when thou wast born,
 'o signify, thou cam'st to bite the world:
 And, if the rest be true which I have heard,
 'hou cam'st into the World with thy Legs forward.
 Glo. I'll hear no more: die Prophet in thy speech;
 [Stabs him.

or this, amongst the rest, was I ordain'd.

K. Henry. Ay, and for much more slaughter after this.

O God! forgive my sins, and pardon thee. [Dies.

* *The raven ROOK'D HER.*]

That is rook'd her? Read,

ROOK'D HOARSE. WARBURT.

The true reading seems to be

no great distance.

the tempest shook down trees,

the raven rook'd her on the

chimney's top;

the top of the chimney shaken

the tempest.

And, if the rest be true which

I have heard,

Thou cam'st——] Had

Editors had but a Grain of

faciety, or due Diligence, there

uld have been no Room for

absurd Break, since they

ght have ventured to fill it up

h Certainty too. The old

arto would have led them part

the way,

Thou cam'st into the world——

And that the Verse is to be completed in the manner I have given it, is incontestible; for unless we suppose King Henry actually reproaches him with this his preposterous Birth, how can Richard in his very next Soliloquy say?

Indeed, 'tis true, that Henry told me of,

For I have often heard my Mother say,

I came into the World with my Legs forward.

I can easily see, that this Blank was caus'd by the Nicety of the Players, to suppress an indecent Idea. But with Submission, this was making but half a Cure, unless they had expung'd the Repetition of it out of Richard's Speech too

THEOBALD.

Glo.

Glo. What ! will th' aspiring blood of *Lancaster*
Sink in the ground ? I thought, it would have mounted.
See, how my sword weeps for the poor King's death !

O, may such purple tears be always shed,
From those who with the Downfall of our House.
If any spark of life be yet remaining,
Down, down to hell, and say, I sent thee thither ;

[*Stabs him again.*]

I, that have neither pity, love nor fear.—

Indeed, 'tis true, that *Henry* told me of :

For I have often heard my mother say,

I came into the world with my legs forward.

Had I not reason, think ye, to make haste,

And seek their ruin that usurp'd our right ?

The midwife wonder'd, and the women cry'd,

O, Jesus blefs us, he is born with teeth !

And so I was ; which plainly signify'd

That I should snarle, and bite, and play the dog.

Then, since the heav'ns have shap'd my body so,

Let hell make crook'd my mind to answer it.

I had no father, I am like no father.

I have no brother, I am like no brother ;

And this word *Love*, which grey-beards call divine,

Be resident in men like one another,

And not in me : I am myself alone.—

Clarence, beware ; thou keep'st me from the light ;

But I will fort a pitchy day for thee ;

For I will buz abroad such Prophecies,

That *Edward* shall be fearful of his life,

And then, to purge his fear, I'll be thy death.

King *Henry*, and the Prince his son, are gone ;

Clarence, thy Turn is next, and then the rest ;

Counting myself but bad, till I be best.

I'll throw thy body in another room ;

And triumph, *Henry* ! in the day of doom.

[*Exit*]

KING HENRY VI.

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SCENE VIII.

The Palace in London.

Enter King Edward, Queen, Clarence, Gloucester, Hastings, Nurse with the young Prince and Attendants.

Edw. **O**NCE more we set on England's royal Throne,

repurchas'd with the blood of enemies :

That valiant foe-men, like to autumn's corn,
Have we mow'd down in top of all their pride ?

Three Dukes of *Somerſet*, three-fold renown'd
For hardy and undoubted champions ;

Two *Cliffords*, as the father and the ſon ;

And two *Northumberlands* ; two braver men

Le'er ſpurr'd their Courſers at the trumpet's ſound.

With them the two brave bears, *Warwick* and *Montague*,

That in their chains fetter'd the kingly Lion,

And made the foreſt tremble when they roar'd.

Thus have we ſwept ſuſpicion from our Seat,

And made our footſtool of Security.

Come hither, *Befs*, and let me kiſs my boy.

[*Taking the child.*]

Young *Ned*, for thee, thine Uncles and myſelf

Have in our armours watch'd the winter-night ;

Went all a-foot in ſummer's ſcalding heat ;

That thou might'ſt reſpoſſeſs the Crown in peace ;

And of our labours thou ſhalt reap the gain.

Glo. I'll blaſt his harveſt, if your head were
laid,

For yet I am not look'd on in the world.

This ſhoulder was ordain'd ſo thick, to heave ?

And heave it ſhall ſome weight, or break my
back ;

Work thou the way, and that ſhall execute. *

* *Work thou the way, and that ſhall execute.* I believe we
ſhould read,

— and this ſhall execute.

Richard laying his hand on his
forehead ſays,

Work thou the way, —
then bringing down his hand and
beholding it,

— and this ſhall execute.

Though that may ſtand, the arm
being included in the ſhoulder.

K. Edw.

224 THE THIRD PART OF

K. *Edw. Clarence* and *Glo'ster*, love my lovely Queen;

And kiss your princely Nephew, Brothers both.

Clar. The Duty, that I owe your Majesty,
I seal upon the lips of this sweet Babe.

Queen. * Thanks, noble *Clarence*; worthy brother,
thanks.

Glo. And that I love the tree, from whence thou
sprang'st,

Witness the loving kiss I give the fruit. —

To say the truth, so *Judas* kiss'd his master; }
And cry'd, all hail! when as he meant all } *Afide.*
harm.

K. *Edw.* Now am I seated as my soul delights,
Having my country's Peace and Brothers' Loves.

Clar. What will your Grace have done with *Margaret*?

Reignier her father to the King of *France*

Hath pawn'd the *Sicils* and *Jerusalem*;

And hither have they sent it for her ransom.

K. *Edw.* Away with her, and waft her hence to
France.

And now what rests but that we spend the time
With stately Triumphs, mirthful Comick Shows,
Such as besit the pleasure of the Court?

Sound, drums and trumpets. Farewel, sour Annoy!
For here, I hope, begins our lasting Joy.

[*Exeunt omnes.*]

* Thanks noble *Clarence*; worthy Brother, thanks] This line has been given to King *Edward*; but I have, with the old *Quarto*, restored it to the Queen. THEOBALD.

Theobald's suspicion arises from some obsolete words; but the phraseology is like the rest of our authour's stile, and single words, of which however I do not observe more than two, can conclude little.

THE three parts of *Henry VI.* are suspected, by Mr. *Theobald*, of being supposititious, and are declared, by Dr. *Warburton*, to be certainly not *Shakespeare's*. Mr.

Dr. *Warburton* gives no reason, but I suppose him to judge upon deeper principles and more comprehensive views, and to draw his opinion from the general effect

pirit of the composition, thinks inferior to the orical plays.

ere inferiority nothing ferred; in the produc- it there will be inequa- etimes judgment will ometimes the matter it- feat the artist. Of every orks one will be the one will be the wort. rs are not equally plea- the attitudes equally in all the pictures of *Reynolds*.

litude of stile and hete- ness of sentiment, may y show that a work does belong to the reputed But in these plays no ks of spurioufness are The diction, the vesti- and the figures, are e's. These plays, con- without regard to cha- id incidents, merely as in verse, are more hap- eived and more accu- shed than those of king *Richard II.* or the tragick

Henry IV. and *V.* If hese plays from *Shake-* whom shall they be That author of that age same easirefs of ex- nd fluency of numbers? gconidered the evidence the plays themselves, id in their favour, w enquire what corro- can be gained from other e. They are ascribed to re by the first editors, estation may be received ons of fact, however un- they superintended their They seem to be declared

genuine by the voice of *Shake-* spare himself, who refers to the second play in his epilogue to *Henry V.* and apparently connects the first acts of *Richard III.* with the last of the third part of *Henry VI.* If it be objected that the plays were popular, and therefore he alluded to them as well known; it may be answered, with equal probability, that the natural passions of a poet would have disposed him to separate his own works from those of an inferior hand. And indeed if an author's own testimony is to be overthrown by speculative criticism, no man can be any longer secure of literary reputation.

Of these three plays I think the second the best The truth is, that they have not sufficient variety of action, for the incidents are too often of the same kind; yet many of the characters are well discriminated. King *Henry*, and his queen, king *Edward*, the duke of *Gloucester*, and the earl of *Warwick*, are very strongly and distinctly painted.

The old copies of the two latter parts of *Henry VI.* and of *Henry V.* are so apparently imperfect and mutilated, that there is no reason for supposing them the first draughts of *Shakespeare*. I am inclined to believe them copies taken by some auditor who wrote down, during the representation, what the time would permit, then perhaps filled up some of his omissions at a second or third hearing, and when he had by this method formed something like a play, sent it to the printer.



T H E]
L I F E and D E A T H
O F
***R I C H A R D* III.**

Q 2

Dramatis

Dramatis Personæ.

KING Edward IV.

Edward, *Prince of Wales, afterwards* Edward V. } *Sons to Edward IV,*

Richard, *Duke of York,*

George, *Duke of Clarence, Brother to Edward IV.*

Richard, *Duke of Gloucester, Brother to Edward IV.*
afterwards King Richard III.

Cardinal, Archbishop of York.

Duke of Buckingham.

Duke of Norfolk. Earl of Surrey.

Marquis of Dorset, Son to Queen Elizabeth.

Earl Rivers, Brother to the Queen.

Lord Gray, Son to Queen Elizabeth.

Earl of Richmond, afterwards King Henry VII.

Bishop of Ely.

Lord Hastings.

Sir Thomas Vaughan.

Sir Richard Ratcliff.

Lord Lovel.

Catesby.

Sir James Tyrrel.

Thomas, Lord Stanley.

Earl of Oxford.

Blount.

Herbert.

Sir Will. Brandon.

Brakenbury, Lieutenant of the Tower.

Two Children of the Duke of Clarence.

Sir Christopher Urswick, a Priest.

Lord Mayor.

Elizabeth, Queen of Edward IV.

Queen Margaret, Widow of Henry VI.

Anne, Widow of Edward Prince of Wales, Son to Henry VI. afterwards married to the Duke of Gloucester.

Duchess of York, Mother to Edward IV. Clarence, and Richard III.

Sheriff, Pursuivant, Citizens, Ghosts of those murder'd by Richard III. with Soldiers, and other Attendants.

T H E
LIFE and DEATH of
King RICHARD III.

A C T I. S C E N E I.

The COURT.

Enter Richard Duke of Gloucester, solus.

NOW is the Winter of our Discontent
Made glorious Summer by this Sun of *York*,
And all the clouds, that lowr'd upon our
House,
the deep bosom of the Ocean bury'd.
Now are our brows bound with victorious wreaths,
Our bruised arms hung up for monuments,
Our stern Alarums chang'd to merry meetings,
Our dreadful Marches to delightful measures.
Civil visag'd War hath smooth'd his wrinkled front ;
And now, instead of mounting barbed steeds
To fright the souls of fearful adversaries,

¹ *The Life and Death of King Richard III.] This Tragedy, though it is called the Life and Death of this Prince, comprizes, most, but the last eight Years of his Time : For it opens with the Duke of Clarence being*

clap'd up in the Tower, which happen'd in the beginning of the Year 1477 ; and closes with the Death of Richard at Bosworth-field, which Battle was fought on the 22d of August in the Year 1485.

THEOBALD.

² He capers nimbly in a lady's chamber,
 To the lascivious pleasing of a lute.
 But I, that am not shap'd for sportive tricks,
 Nor made to court an am'rous looking-glass,—
 I, that am rudely stamp'd, and want love's majesty,
 To strut before a wanton ambling Nymph;
 I, that am curtail'd of this fair proportion,
³ Cheated of feature by dissembling nature,
 Deform'd, unfinish'd, sent before my time
 Into this breathing world, scarce half made up;
 And that so lamely and unfashionably,
 That dogs bark at me as I halt by them:
 Why I, in this weak piping time of peace
 Have no delight to pass away the time;
 Unless to spy my shadow in the Sun,
 And descant on mine own deformity.
 And therefore, since I cannot prove a lover,⁴
 To entertain these fair well-spoken days,
 I am determin'd to prove a villain,
 And ⁵ hate the idle pleasures of these days.
 Plots have I laid, [†] inductions dangerous,
 To set my brother *Clarence* and the King
 In deadly hate, the one against the other:
 By drunken prophecies, libels, and dreams,

² *He capers*—] War capers. This is poetical, though a little harsh; if it be *York* that capers, the antecedent is at such a distance that it is almost forgotten.

³ *Cheated of feature by dissembling nature*,] By *dissembling* is not meant *hypocritical* nature, that pretends one thing and does another: But nature that puts together things of a dissimilar kind, as a brave soul and a deformed body.

WARBURTON.

Dissembling is here put very licentiously for *frank*, *deceitful*.

⁴ *And therefore, since I cannot prove a lover*,] *Shakespeare* very diligently inculcates, that the wickedness of *Richard* proceeded from his deformity, from the envy that rose at the comparison of his own person with others, and which incited him to disturb the pleasures that he could not partake.

⁵ *And hate the idle pleasures*,] Perhaps we might read, *And bate the idle pleasures*.

[†] *Inductions dangerous*,] Preparations for mischief. The *induction* is preparatory to the action of the play.

And

KING RICHARD III. 231

And, if King *Edward* be as true and just,
As I am subtle, false, and treacherous,
This day should *Clarence* closely be mew'd up;
About a Prophecy, which says, that *G*
Of *Edward's* Heirs the Murtherer shall be.
—Dive, thoughts, down to my soul! here *Clarence* comes.

Enter Clarence guarded, and Brakenbury.

brother, good day, what means this armed Guard,
That waits upon your Grace?

Clar. His Majesty,
End'ring my person's safety, hath appointed
his conduct to convey me to the *Tower*.

Glo. Upon what cause?

Clar. Because my name is *George*.

Glo. Alack, my lord, that fault is none of yours:
He should for That commit your godfathers.
Belike, his Majesty hath some intent,
That you should be new christened in the *Tower*.
But what's the matter, *Clarence*, may I know?

Clar. Yea, *Richard*, when I know; for, I protest,
As yet I do not; but as I can learn,
He hearkens after Prophecies and Dreams,
And from the cross-row plucks the letter *G*;
And says, a wizard told him, that by *G*
His Issue disinherited should be.
And, for my name of *George* begins with *G*,
It follows in his thought, that I am he.
These, as I learn, and such like * toys as these,
Have mov'd his Highness to commit me now.

Glo. Why, this it is, when men are rul'd by women.
'Tis not the King that sends you to the *Tower*,
My lady *Gray* his wife, *Clarence*, 'tis she,
That tempts him to this harsh extremity.

* — *Edward* be as true and just,] *i. e.* as open hearted and free from deceit. *WARB.* *Edward* keeps his word. * *Toys.*] Fancies, freaks of imagination.

The meaning is only this; if

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Was it not she, and that good man of worship,
Anthony Woodvil her brother there,
 That made him send lord *Hastings* to the *Tower*?
 From whence this day he is delivered.

We are not safe, *Clarence*, we are not safe.

Clar. By heav'n, I think, there is no man secure
 But the Queen's kindred, and night-walking heralds,
 That trudge between the King and mistress *Shore*.
 Heard you not, what an humble suppliant
 Lord *Hastings* was to her for his delivery?

Glo. ⁶ Humbly complaining to her Deity,
 Got my lord Chamberlain his liberty.

I'll tell you what;—I think, it is our way,
 If we will keep in favour with the King,
 To be her men, and wear her livery:

* The jealous o'erworn widow, and herself,
 Since that our Brother dubb'd them gentlewomen,
 Are mighty gossips in this Monarchy.

Brak. I beg your Graces both to pardon me:
 His Majesty has straitly giv'n in charge,
 That no man shall have private conference,
 Of what degree soever, with your brother.

Glo. Ev'n so, an't please your worship? *Brakenbury*,
 You may partake of any thing we say,
 We speak no treason, man—we say, the King
 Is wise and virtuous; and his noble Queen
 Well strook in years; fair, and not jealous—
 We say, that *Shore's* wife hath a pretty foot,
 A cherry lip, a passing pleasing tongue;
 That the Queen's kindred are made gentle-folk.
 How say you, Sir? can you deny all this?

Brak. With this, my lord, myself have nought to do.

Glo. What, fellow? nought to do with mistress
Shore?

I tell you, Sir, he that doth naught with her,

⁶ *Humbly complaining, &c.]* I think these two lines might be better given to *Clarence*. * *The jealous o'erworn widow.]* That is, the Queen and *Shore*.

Excepting

KING RICHARD III. 233

accepting one, were best to do it secretly.

Brak. What one, my Lord?

Glo. Her husband, knave—wouldst thou betray me?

Brak. I do beseech your Grace to pardon me,
and to forbear your conference with the Duke.

Clar. We know thy charge, *Brakenbury*, and will
obey.

Glo. We are the Queen's subjects, and must obey.

Other, farewell; I will unto the King,

and whatsoever you will employ me in,

ere it to call King *Edward's* widow sister,¹

will perform it to infranchise you.

Mean time, this deep disgrace of brotherhood

ouches me deeper than you can imagine.

Clar. I know it pleaseth neither of us well.

Glo. Well, your imprisonment shall not be long,

will deliver you, or else lye for you:

Mean time have patience.

Clar. I must perforce; farewell. [*Exe. Brak. Clar.*]

Glo. Go, tread the path that thou shalt ne'er return:

Simple, plain *Clarence*—I do love thee so,

that I will shortly lend thy soul to heav'n,

if heav'n will take the Present at our hands.

—But who comes here? the new-deliver'd *Hastings*?

Enter Lord Hastings.

Hast. Good time of day unto my gracious lord.

Glo. As much unto my good lord Chamberlain:

¹ — the Queen's subjects,—] That is, not the Queen's subjects, whom she might protect, but her subjects, whom she drives away.

² Were it to call King Edward's widow sister.] This is a very covert and subtle manner of insinuating treason. The natural expression would have been, were it to call King Edward's

wife sister. I will solicit for you though it should be at the expence of so much degradation and constraint, as to own the lowborn wife of King Edward for a sister. But by slipping as it were casually widow into the place of wife, he tempts *Clarence* with an oblique proposal to kill the king.

Well

234 KING RICHARD III.

Well are you welcome to the open air.
How hath your lordship brook'd imprisonment?

Haft. With patience, noble lord, as pris'ners must.
But I shall live, my lord, to give them thanks,
That were the cause of my imprisonment.

Glo. No doubt, no doubt; and so shall *Clarence* too;
For they, that were your enemies, are his,
And have prevail'd as much on him as you.

Haft. More pity, that the Eagle should be mew'd,
While kites and buzzards prey at liberty.

Glo. What news abroad?

Haft. No news so bad abroad, as this at home;
The King is sickly, weak and melancholy,
And his Physicians fear him mightily.

Glo. Now, by St. *Paul*, that news is bad, indeed.
O, he hath kept an evil diet long,
And over-much consum'd his royal person:
'Tis very grievous to be thought upon.
Where is he, in his bed?

Haft. He is.

Glo. Go you before, and I will follow you.

[Exit Hastings.]

He cannot live, I hope; and must not die,
'Till *George* be pack'd with post-horse up to heav'n.
I'll in, to urge his hatred more to *Clarence*,
With Lies well steel'd with weighty arguments;
And if I fail not in my deep intent,
Clarence hath not another day to live:
Which done, God take King *Edward* to his mercy;
And leave the world for me to bustle in!
For then, I'll marry *Warwick's* youngest daughter;
What though I kill'd her husband, and her father?
The readiest way to make the wench amends,
Is to become her husband and her father:
The which will I, not all so much for love,
As for another secret close intent,
By marrying her, which I must reach unto.
—But yet I run before my horse to market:

Clarence

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nce still breathes, *Edward* still lives and reigns ;
n they are gone, then must I count my Gains.

[*Exit.*

S C E N E II.

Changes to a Street.

*the Coarse of Henry the Sixth, with Halberds
to guard it, Lady Anne being the mourner.*

SET down, set down your honourable load,
If honour may be shrouded in a herse ;
If I awhile obsequiously lament
Untimely Fall of virtuous *Lancaster*.
For key-cold figure of a holy King !
Alas of the House of *Lancaster* !
A bloodless remnant of that royal blood !
Lawful, that I invoke thy ghost,
Near the lamentations of poor *Anne*,
To thy *Edward*, to thy slaughter'd son,
B'd by the self-same hand, that made these wounds.
In these windows, that let forth thy life,
For the helpless balm of my poor eyes.
'd be the hand, that made these fatal holes !
'd be the heart, that had the heart to do it !
O direful hap betide that hated wretch,
That makes us wretched by the death of thee,
That I can wish to adders, spiders, toads,
Any creeping venom'd thing that lives !
Never he have child, abortive be it,
Sighing, and untimely brought to light,
Of ugly and unnatural aspect
To fright the hopeful mother at the view,
That be heir to his unhappiness !
Never he have wife, let her be made
More miserable by the death of him,
Than I am made by my young lord and thee !
Come, now tow'ards *Chertsey* with your holy load,
Taken

236 KING RICHARD III.

Taken from *Paul's* to be interred there.
And still, as you are weary of this weight,
Rest you, while I lament King *Henry's* Coarse.

Enter Richard Duke of Gloucester.

Glo. Stay you, that bear the Coarse, and set it down.

Anne. What black magician conjures up this fiend,
To stop devoted charitable deeds?

Glo. Villains, set down the Coarse; or, by *St. Paul*,
I'll make a Coarse of him that disobeys. ⁹

Gen. My lord, stand back, and let the coffin pass.

Glo. Unmanner'd dog! stand thou when I command;

Advance thy halbert higher than my breast,
Or, by *St. Paul*, I'll strike thee to my foot,
And spurn upon thee, beggar, for thy boldness.

Anne. What, do you tremble? are you all afraid?
Alas, I blame you not, for you are mortal;
And mortal eyes cannot endure the devil.

—Avaunt, thou dreadful minister of hell!
Thou had'st but power over his mortal body,
His soul thou canst not have; therefore be gone.

Glo. Sweet Saint, for charity, be not so curst.

Anne. Foul Dev'l! for God's sake hence, trouble
us not,

For thou hast made the happy earth thy hell,
Fill'd it with cursing cries, and deep exclaims.
If thou delight to view thy heinous deeds,
Behold this pattern of thy butcheries. ¹

Oh, gentlemen, see! see dead *Henry's* wounds
Open their congeal'd mouths and bleed afresh. ²

Blush,

⁹ *I'll make a coarse of him that disobeys*] So in *Hamlet*,
I'll make a ghost of him that kills me.

¹ —*pattern of the butcheries.*]
Pattern is *figure*, or *example*.

² —*see, dead Henry's wounds*
Open their congealed mouths and
bleed afresh.] It is a tra-
dition very generally received,
that the murdered body bleeds
on the touch of the murderer.
This

ush, blush, thou lump of foul deformity;
 or 'tis thy presence that exhales this blood
 from cold and empty veins, where no blood dwells.
 thy deeds, inhuman and unnatural
 provoke this deluge most unnatural,
 O God! which this blood mad'st, revenge his death,
 O earth! which this blood drink'st, revenge his death,
 O Heav'n with lightning strike the murth'rer dead,
 O Earth gape open wide, and eat him quick;
 as thou dost swallow up this good King's blood,
 Which his hell-govern'd arm hath butchered!

Glo. Lady, you know no rules of charity,
 Which renders good for bad, blessings for curses.

Anne. Villain, thou know'st nor law of God nor
 man;

so beast so fierce, but knows some touch of pity.

Glo. But I know none, and therefore am no beast.

Anne. O wonderful, when devils tell the truth!

Glo. More wonderful, when angels are so angry.
 Vouchsafe, divine perfection of a woman,
 If these supposed crimes, to give me leave,
 By circumstance, but to acquit myself.

Anne. Vouchsafe, diffus'd infection of a man,
 For these known evils, but to give me leave,
 By circumstance, to curse thy cursed self.

Glo. Fairer than tongue can name thee, let me have
 Some patient leisure to excuse myself.

Anne. Fouler than heart can think thee, thou canst
 make

No excuse current, but to hang thyself.

Glo. By such despair I should accuse myself.

Anne. And by despairing shalt thou stand excus'd,
 For doing worthy vengeance on thyself;

This was so much believed by *Sir Kenelm Digby* that he has endeavoured to explain the reason. *used in this place signifies irregular, uncerth; such is its meaning in other passages of Shakespeare.*

[*Vouchsafe, diffus'd infection of a man,*] I believe dif-

That

238 KING RICHARD III.

That didst unworthy slaughter upon others.

Glo. Say, that I slew them not.

Anne. Then say, they were not slain :
But dead they are ; and, devilish slave, by thee.

Glo. I did not kill your husband.

Anne. Why, then he is alive.

Glo. Nay, he is dead, and slain by *Edward's* hands.

Anne. In thy foul throat thou ly'st. *Queen Mary's*
faw

Thy murd'rous faulchion smoaking in his blood :
The which thou once didst bend against her breast,
But that thy Brothers beat aside the point.

Glo. I was provoked by her stand'rous tongue,
* That laid their guilt upon my guiltless shoulders.

Anne. Thou wast provoked by thy bloody mind,
That never dreamt on aught but butcheries :
Didst thou not kill this King ?

Glo. I grant ye.

Anne. Dost grant me, hedge-hog ? then God grant
me too,

Thou may'st be damned for that wicked deed !
O, he was gentle, mild and virtuous.—

Glo. The fitter for the King of heav'n, that hath
him.

Anne. He is in heav'n, where thou shalt never come.

Glo. Let him thank me, that help'd to send him
thither ;

For he was fitter for that place than earth.

Anne. And thou unfit for any place but hell.

Glo. Yes, one place else, if you will hear me name it.

Anne. Some dungeon.

Glo. Your bed-chamber.

Anne. Ill Rest betide the chamber where thou lyest !

Glo. So will it, Madam, till I lie with you.

* That laid their guilt——] lady *Anne's* husband upon *Ed-*
The crime of my brothers. He ward.
has just charged the murder of

me. I hope so.

o. I know so.—But, gentle lady *Anne*,
save this keen encounter of our wits,
fall something into a slower method :
at the causer of the timeless deaths
these *Plantagenets*, *Henry* and *Edward*,
dameful as the executioner?

me. 'Thou wast the cause, and most accurst effect.

o. Your beauty was the cause of that effect ;
beauty, that did haunt me in my sleep,
undertake the death of all the world,
might live one hour in your sweet bosom.

me. If I thought that, I tell thee, homicide,
nails should rend that beauty from my cheeks:

o. These eyes could not endure sweet beauty's
wreck.

should not blemish it, if I stood by ;
all the world is cheered by the Sun,
by That ; it is my day, my life.

me. Black night o'ershade thy day, and death
thy life !

o. Curse not thyself, fair creature : thou art both,

me. I would I were, to be reveng'd on thee.

o. It is a quarrel most unnatural,
reveng'd on him that loveth thee.

me. It is a quarrel just and reasonable,
reveng'd on him that kill'd my husband.

o. He that bereft thee, lady, of thy husband,

*Thou wast the cause, and most
accurst effect,]* *Effect*, for
executioner. He asks, was not
as ill as the executioner?
answers, Thou wast both.
or *causer*, using the word
this led her to the word
for execution, or execu-

But the *Oxford Editor*
ing himself with nothing

of this, will make a fine orato-
rical period of it.

*Thou wast the cause. And most
accurst th' effect !*

WARBURTON.

I cannot but be rather of Sir
T. Hanmer's opinion than Dr.
Warburton's, because *effect* is
used immediately in its common
sense, in answer to this line.

Did it to help thee to a better husband.

Anne. His better doth not breathe upon the earth.

Glo. He lives, that loves thee better than he could;

Anne. Name him.

Glo. *Plantagenet.*

Anne. Why, that was he.

Glo. The self-same name, but one of better nature,

Anne. Where is he?

Glo. Here: [*She spits at him.*] Why dost thou spit at me?

Anne. Would it were mortal poison for thy sake!

Glo. Never came poison from so sweet a place.

Anne. Never hung poison on a fouler toad.

—Out of my sight! thou dost infect mine eyes.

Glo. Thine eyes, sweet Lady, have infected mine.

Anne. Would they were basilisks to strike thee dead!

Glo. I would they were, that I might die at once:

For now they kill me with a living death.⁶

Those eyes of thine from mine have drawn salt tears;

Sham'd their aspects with store of childish drops,

These eyes, which never shed remorseful tear,

Not when my father *York*, and *Edward* wept,

To hear the piteous moan that *Rutland* made;

When black-fac'd *Clifford* shook his sword at him:

Nor when thy warlike father, like a child,

Told the sad story of my father's death,

And twenty times made pause to sob and weep,

That all the standers-by had wet their cheeks,

Like trees bedash'd with rain; in that sad time,

My manly eyes did scorn an humble tear;

And what these sorrows could not thence exhale,

⁶ — they kill me with a living death.] In imitation of this passage, and I suppose of a thousand more;

—a living death I hear,
Says Dupperwit, and frowns to frowns
his chair.

⁷ These eyes, which never, &c.] The twelve following beautiful lines added after the first editions.

POPE.
They were added with many more.

KING RICHARD III. 241

beauty hath, and made them blind with weeping;
er sued to friend, nor enemy;
ongue could never learn sweet smoothing words;
ow thy beauty is propos'd my fee,
roud heart sues, and prompts my tongue to speak.

[She looks scornfully at him.]

not thy lip such scorn, for it was made
issing, lady, not for such contempt.
y revengeful heart can not forgive,
here I lend thee this sharp pointed sword,
h, if thou please to hide in this true breast,
let the soul forth that adoreth thee,
it naked to the deadly stroke,
humbly beg the death upon my knee.
He lays his breast open, she offers at it with his sword.
do not pause; for I did kill King Henry;
'twas thy beauty that provoked me.
now dispatch: 'twas I that stabb'd young Ed-
ward;

'twas thy heavenly face that set me on.

[She lets fall the sword.]

up the sword again, or take up me.
me. Arise, dissembler; though I wish thy death,
I not be thy executioner.

o. Then bid me kill myself, and I will do it.
me. I have already.

o. That was in thy rage:

kill it again, and even with thy word,
hand, which for thy love, did kill thy love,
I, for thy love, kill a far truer love;
both their deaths shalt thou be accessory.

me. I would I knew thy heart.

o. 'Tis figur'd in my tongue.

me. I fear me, both are false.

But 'twas thy beauty——] ever be offended with the men-
spears countenances the ob- tion of her beauty.
ion, that no woman can

Glo. Then never man was true.

Anne. Well, well, put up your sword.

Glo. Say then, my peace is made.

Anne. That shalt thou know hereafter.

Glo. But shall I live in hope?

Anne. All men, I hope, live so.

Glo. Vouchsafe to wear this ring. [*She puts on the ring.*
Look, how my ring encompasseth thy finger,
Ev'n so thy breast encloseth my poor heart;
Wear both of them, for both of them are thine.
And if thy poor devoted suppliant may
But beg one favour at thy gracious hand,
Thou dost confirm his happiness for ever.

Anne. What is it?

Glo. That it may please you leave these sad designs
To him that hath more cause to be a Mourner;
And presently repair to *Crosby-place* :⁹
Where, after I have solemnly interr'd
At *Chertsey-monast'ry* this noble King,
And wet his grave with my repentant tears,
I will with all expedient duty see you.
For divers unknown reasons, I beseech you,
Grant me this boon.

Anne. With all my heart, and much it joys me too,
To see you are become so penitent.
Trassel and *Barkley*, go along with me.

Glo. Bid me farewell.

Anne. 'Tis more than you deserve :
But since you teach me how to flatter you,
Imagine, I have said farewell already.

[*Exeunt two with Anne.*

Glo. Sirs, take up the corpse.

Gent. Towards *Chertsey*, noble Lord?

Glo. No, to *White Friars*, there attend my coming.

[*Exeunt with the Court.*

⁹ — *Crosby-place* :] A house near *Bishopsgate-street* belonging to the Duke of Gloucester.

KING RICHARD III. 243

ever woman in this humour woo'd?
 ever woman in this humour won?
 ave her——but I will not keep her long.
 I that kill'd her husband, and his father I
 ake her in her heart's extreamest hate,
 a curses in her mouth, tears in her eyes,
 bleeding witness of her hatred by:
 I God, her conscience, and these bars against me,
 I no friends to back my suit withal,
 the plain devil and dissembling looks:
 yet to win her——All the world to nothing!

I she forgot already that brave Prince,
 ard, her Lord, whom I, some three months since,
 'd in my angry mood at *Tewksbury*?
 eeter and a lovelier gentleman,
 um'd in the prodigality of nature,
 ng, wise, and valiant, and, no doubt, right royal,
 spacious world cannot again afford:——
 will she yet debase her eyes on me,
 t cropt the golden prime of this sweet Prince,
 I made her widow to a woful bed?
 me, whose All not equals *Edward's* Moiety?
 me, that halt, and am mis-shapen thus?
 Dukedom to a beggarly Denier,
 mistake my person all this while:

Fram'd in the prodigality of nature,] i. e. when nature
 n a prodigal or lavish mood.

WARBURTON.
 —— and, no doubt, *right*
royal,] Of the degree of
 ty belonging to *Henry* the
 there could be *no doubt*,
 could Richard have men-
 d it with any such hesita-
 ; he could not indeed very
 uly allow him *royalty*. I
 ve we should read,

— and, no doubt, *right* loyal.
 That is, *true to her bed*. He
 enumerates the reasons for which
 she should love him. He was
 young, wise, and valiant; these
 were apparent and indisputable
 excellencies. He then mentions
 another not less likely to endear
 him to his wife, but which he
 had less opportunity of know-
 ing with certainty, and, no doubt,
right loyal.

244 KING RICHARD III.

Upon my life, she finds, although I cannot,
Myself to be a marv'lous proper man.
I'll be at charges for a looking-glass,
And entertain a score or two of tailors,
To study fashions to adorn my body :
Since I am crept in favour with myself,
I will maintain it with some little cost.
But first I'll turn yon fellow in his grave,
And then return lamenting to my love.
Shine out, fair sun, till I have bought a glass,
That I may see my shadow as I pass. [Exit.

S C E N E III.

Changes to the Palace.

Enter the Queen, Lord Rivers, and Lord Gray.

Riv. HAVE patience, Madam, there's no doubt
his Majesty
Will soon recover his accustom'd health.

Gray. In that you brook it ill, it makes him worse;
Therefore, for God's sake, entertain good comfort,
And cheer his Grace with quick and merry eyes.

Queen. If he were dead what would betide of me?

Gray. No other harm, but loss of such a Lord.

Queen. The loss of such a Lord includes all harms.

Gray. The heav'ns have blest you with a goodly son,
To be your comforter when he is gone.

Queen. Ah! he is young, and his minority
Is put into the trust of *Richard Glo'ster*,
A man that loves not me, nor none of you.

Riv. Is it concluded, he shall be protector?

Queen. 'Tis determin'd, not concluded yet :

³ *It is determin'd, not concluded yet.* *Determin'd* signifies the final conclusion of the will: *concluded*, what cannot be

alter'd by reason of some act, consequent on the final judgment. WARBURTON.

But

KING RICHARD III. 245

so it must be, if the king miscarry.

Enter Buckingham and Stanley.

ay. Here come the Lords of *Buckingham* and *Stanley*. *

uck. Good time of day unto your royal Grace!

anley. God make your Majesty joyful as you have been!

een. The Countess *Richmond*, good my Lord of *Stanley*,

your good pray'r will scarcely say, Amen;

Stanley, notwithstanding she's your wife, loves not me, be you, good Lord, assur'd, e not you for her proud arrogance.

anley. I do beseech you, either not believe envious slanders of her false accusers:

if she be accused on true report, with her weakness; which, I think, proceeds a wayward sickness, and no grounded malice.

een. Saw you the King to day, my Lord of *Stanley*?

anley. But now the Duke of *Buckingham* and I come from visiting his Majesty.

een. What likelihood of his amendment, Lords?

uck. Madam, good hope; his Grace speaks cheerfully.

een. God grant him health! did you confer with him?

ere come the Lords of Buckingham and Derby.] This blunder of Inadvertence, has run thro' the whole of Impressions. It could all be original in *Shake-* who was most minutely te with his History and termarrriages of the No- The Person here called *was Thomas Lord Stanley* steward of King *Edward*

the IVth's Household. But this *Thomas Lord Stanley* was not created Earl of *Derby* till after the Accession of *Henry VII*; and, accordingly, afterwards in the Fourth and Fifth *Acts* of this Play, before the Battle of *Bosworth-field*, he is every where call'd Lord *Stanley*. This sufficiently justifies the Change I have made in his Title.

THEOBALD.

Buck.

246 KING RICHARD III.

Buck. Madam, we did ; he seeks to make atonement
Between the Duke of *Glo'ster* and your brothers,
And between them and my Lord chamberlain ;
And sent to warn them to his royal presence.

Queen. 'Would all were well—but that will never
be——
I fear, our happiness is at the height.

Enter Gloucester.

Glo. They do me wrong, and I will not endure it.
Who are they, that complain unto the King,
That I, forsooth, am stern, and love them not ?
By holy *Paul* they love his Grace but lightly,
That fill his ears with such dissentious rumours,
Because I cannot flatter, and look fair,
Smile in men's faces, smooth, deceive and cog,
Duck with *French* nods, and apish courtesy,
I must be held a rancorous enemy.
Cannot a plain man live and think no harm,
But thus his simple truth must be abus'd
By silken, sly, insinuating *Jacks* ?

Gray. To whom in all this presence speaks your
Grace ?

Glo. To thee, that hast nor honesty, nor grace :
When have I injur'd thee ? when done thee wrong ?
Or thee ? or thee ? or any of your faction ?
A plague upon you all ! His royal person,
Whom God preserve better than you would wish,
Cannot be quiet scarce a breathing while,
But you must trouble him with lew'd complaints.

Queen. Brother of *Glo'ster*, you mistake the matter !
The King of his own royal disposition,
And not provok'd by any suitor else,
Aiming, belike, at your interior hatred,
That in your outward action shews itself
Against my children, brothers, and myself ;
Makes him to send, that he may learn the ground
Of

!Of your ill will, and thereby to remove it.

Glo. I cannot tell ; the world is grown so bad,
That wrens make prey, where eagles dare not perch,
Since every *Jack* became a gentleman,
There's many a gentle person made a *Jack*.

Queen. Come, come, we know your meaning, brother *Glo'ster*.

You envy my advancement and my friends :
God grant we never may have need of you !

Glo. Mean time, God grant that we have need of you !

Our Brother is imprison'd by your means ;
Myself disgrac'd ; and the nobility
Held in contempt ; while many fair promotions
Are daily given to enoble those,
That scarce some two days since were worth a noble.

Queen. By him, that rais'd me to this careful height,
From that contented hap which I enjoy'd,
I never did incense his Majesty
Against the Duke of *Clarence* ; but have been
An earnest Advocate to plead for him.
My Lord, you do me shameful injury,
Falsly to draw me in these wild suspects.

Glo. You may deny that you were not the cause
Of my Lord *Hastings'* late imprisonment.

Riv. She may, my Lord, for ——

Glo. She may, Lord *Rivers*——why, who knows not so ?

She may do more, Sir, than denying that :
She may help you to many fair preferments,
And then deny her aiding hand therein,
And lay those honours on your high deserts.
What may she not ? she may——ay, marry, may she——

Riv. What, marry, may she ?

[Of your ill will, &c.] This line is restored from the first edition. Parr.

248 KING RICHARD III.

Glo. What, marry, may she? marry with a King,
A batchelor, a handsome stripling too :
I wis, your grandam had a worser match. —

Queen. My Lord of *Glo'ster*, I have too long borne
Your blunt upbraidings, and your bitter scoffs :
By heav'n, I will acquaint his Majesty,
Of those gross taunts I often have endur'd.
I had rather be a country servant-maid,
Than a great Queen with this condition ;
To be thus taunted, scorn'd and baited at.
Small joy have I in being *England's* Queen.

SCENE IV.

Enter Queen Margaret.

Q. Mar. And lessen'd be that small, God, I beseech
thee !

Thy honour, state, and seat is due to me.

Glo. What ! threat you me with telling of the King?

* Tell him, and spare not ; look, what I have said.

I will avouch in presence of the King :

'Tis time to speak, ' my pains are quite forgot.

Q. Mar. * Out, Devil ! I remember thee too well :
Thou kill'dst my husband *Henry* in the *Tower*,
And *Edward*, my poor son, at *Tewksbury*.

Glo. Ere you were Queen, ay, or your husband King,
I was a pack-horse in his great affairs ;
A weeder out of his proud Adversaries,
A liberal rewarder of his friends ;
To royalize his blood, I spilt mine own.

* Tell him, and spare not ;
[*look, what I have said,*]
This Verse I have restored from
the old *Quarto's*. THEOBALD.
* My pains.] My labours ; my
toils.

* Out, Devil ! —] Read

NO.

WARDURTON.

There is no need of change,
but if there were, the commen-
tator does not change enough :
he should read, *I remember them*
too well ; that is, his pains.

Q. Mar.

KING RICHARD III. 249

Q. Mar. Ay, and much better blood than his, or thine.

Glo. In all which time you and your husband *Gray* were factious for the house of *Lancaster*; and, *Rivers*, so were you;—⁹ was not your husband, *Marg'ret's* battle, at *St. Albans* slain? Let me put in your minds, if you forget, what you have been ere now, and what you are? Withal, what I have been, and what I am.

Q. Mar. A murd'rous villain, and so still thou art.

Glo. Poor *Clarence* did forsake his father *Warwick*, y, and forswore himself, which, Jesu pardon!—

Q. Mar. Which God revenge!—

Glo. To fight on *Edward's* party for the crown; and for his meed, poor Lord, he is mew'd up: would to God, my heart were flint, like *Edward's*; *Edward's* soft and pitiful like mine; am too childish-foolish for this world.

Q. Mar. Hie thee to hell for shame, and leave this world,

you Cacodæmon, there thy kingdom is.

Riv. My Lord of *Glo'ster*, in those busy days, which here you urge to prove us enemies, we follow'd then our Lord, our lawful King, should we you, if you should be our King.

Glo. If I should be!—I had rather be a pedlar: nor be it from my heart the thought thereof.

Queen. As little joy, my Lord, as you suppose you should enjoy, were you this country's King, as little joy you may suppose in me, that I enjoy, being the Queen thereof.

Q. Mar. A little joy enjoys the Queen thereof; or I am she, and altogether joyless. I can no longer hold me patient.

⁹ —*Was not your husband,* said in *Henry VI.* that he died in *the Marg'ret's battle.* It is *quarrel of the house of York.*

Hear

250 KING RICHARD III.

* Hear me, ye wrangling pirates, that fall out
In sharing that which you have pill'd from me;
Which of you trembles not that looks on me?
If not that I being Queen, you bow like subjects;
Yet that by you depos'd, you quake like rebels?

² Ah, gentle villain, do not turn away!

Glo. Foul wrinkled witch, what mak'st thou in my sight?

Q. Mar. But repetition of what thou hast marr'd,
That will I make, before I let thee go.

A husband and a son thou ow'st to me; [*To Glo.*
And thou, a kingdom; [*To the Queen.*] all of you
allegiance;

The sorrow that I have, by Right is yours;
And all the pleasures, you usurp, are mine.

Glo. The curse my noble father laid on thee,
When thou didst crown his warlike brows with paper,
And with thy scorns drew'st rivers from his eyes,
And then, to dry them, gav'st the Duke a clout,
Steep'd in the faultless blood of pretty *Rutland*;
His curses, then from bitterness of soul
Denounc'd against thee, are now fall'n upon thee,
And God, not we, has plagu'd thy bloody deed.

¹ *Queen.* So just is God, to right the innocent.

Hast. O, 'twas the foulest deed to slay that babe,
And the most merciless, that e'er was heard of.

¹ *Hear me, ye wrangling pirates, &c.*] This scene of *Margaret's* imprecations is fine and artful. She prepares the audience, like another *Cassandra*, for the following tragic revolutions. *WARBURTON.*

² *Ab, gentle villain,—*] We should read, *UNCLE* villain.

WARBURTON.

The meaning of *gentle* is not, as the commentator imagines,

tender or courteous, but high-born. An opposition is meant between that and *villain*, which means at once a wicked and a low-born wretch. So before,

Since ev'ry Jack is made a gentleman,

There's many a gentle person made a Jack.

³ *Q. Mar. So just is God, &c.*] This line should be given to *Edward IVth's Queen.* *WARBURTON.*

Riv.

KING RICHARD III. 251

Riv. Tyrants themselves wept when it was reported.

Dorf. No man but prophesy'd revenge for it.

Buck. *Northumberland*, then present, wept to see it.

Q. Mar. What! were you snarling all before I came,

Ready to catch each other by the throat,

And turn you all your hatred now on me?

Did *York's* dread curse prevail so much with heav'n,

That *Henry's* death, my lovely *Edward's* death,

Their Kingdom's loss, my woful banishment,

Could all but answer for that peevish brat?

Can curses pierce the clouds, and enter heav'n?

Why, then give way, dull clouds, to my quick curses!

If not by war, * by surfeit die your King,

As ours by murder, to make him a King!

Edward thy son, that now is Prince of *Wales*,

For *Edward* our son, that was Prince of *Wales*,

Die in his youth by like untimely violence!

Thyself a Queen, for me that was a Queen,

Out-live thy glory, like my wretched self;

Long may'st thou live to wail thy children's loss,

And see another, as I see thee now;

Deck'd in thy rights, as thou art stall'd in mine:

Long die thy happy days before thy death,

And after many length'ned hours of grief,

Die, neither mother, wife, nor *England's* Queen!

Rivers and *Dorset*, you were standers-by,

And so wast thou, Lord *Hastings*, when my son

Was stabb'd with bloody daggers: God, I pray him,

That none of you may live your natural age,

But by some unlook'd accident cut off! [hag.

Glo. Have done thy charm, thou hateful wither'd

Q. Mar. And leave out thee? stay, dog, for thou shalt hear me.

If heav'n's have any grievous plague in store,

* *By surfeit die your King.*] Alluding to his luxurious life.

252 KING RICHARD III.

Exceeding those that I can wish upon thee,
 O, let them keep it till thy sins be ripe,
 And then hurl down their indignation
 On thee, thou troubler of the poor world's peace!
 The worm of conscience still be-gnaw thy soul!
 Thy friends suspect for traitors while thou liv'st,
 And take deep traitors for thy dearest friends:
 No sleep close up that deadly eye of thine,
 Unless it be while some tormenting dream
 Affrights thee with a hell of ugly devils!
 Thou elvish-markt abortive, ⁵ rooting hog!
 Thou that wast seal'd in thy nativity
⁶ The slave of nature, and the son of hell!
 Thou slander of thy mother's womb!
 Thou loathed issue of thy father's loins!
⁷ Thou rag of honour, thou detested——

⁵———*rooting hog*!] The expression is fine, alluding (in memory of her young son) to the ravage which hogs make, with the finest flowers, in gardens; and intimating that *Elizabeth* was to expect no other treatment for her sons. WARB.

She calls him *hog* as an appellation more contemptuous than *bear*, as he is elsewhere termed from his ensigns armorial. There is no such heap of allusion as the commentator imagines.

⁶ *The slave of nature*,—] The expression is strong and noble, and alludes to the antient custom of masters' branding their profligate slaves: by which it is insinuated that his mis-shapen person was the mark that nature had set upon him to stigmatize his ill conditions. *Shakspere* expresses the same thought in *The Comedy of Errors*.

He is deformed, crooked, &c.

Stigmatical in making——

But as the speaker rises in her resentment, she expresses this contemptuous thought much more openly, and condemns him to a still worse state of slavery.

Sin, Death, and Hell, have set their marks upon him.

Only, in the first line, her mention of his moral condition insinuates her reflections on his deformity: and, in the last, her mention of his deformity insinuates her reflections on his moral condition: And thus he has taught her to scold in all the elegance of figure. WARB.

⁷ *Thou RAG of honour, &c.*] We should certainly read,

Thou WRACK of honour——

i. e. the ruin and destruction of honour; which I suppose was first writ *rack*, and then further corrupted to *rag*. WARB.

Rag is, in my opinion, right, and intimates that much of his honour is torn away.

Glo. Margaret.——

Q. Mar. Richard.——

Glo. Ha?——

Q. Mar. I call thee not.

Glo. I cry thee mercy then ! for, I did think,
at thou had'st call'd me all these bitter names.

Q. Mar. Why so I did ; but look'd for no reply.
let me make the period to my curse.

Glo. 'Tis done by me, and ends in *Margaret.*

Queen. Thus have you breath'd your curse against
yourself.

Q. Mar. Poor painted Queen, vain flourish of my
fortune !

thy strew'st thou sugar on that ' bottled spider,
whose deadly web ensnareth thee about ?

O, fool, thou whet'st a knife to kill thyself :
some day will come, that thou shalt wish for me
to help thee curse this pois'nous bunch-back'd toad.

Isabel. False-boding woman, end thy frantic curse ;
it to thy harm thou move our patience.

Q. Mar. Foul shame upon you ! you have all mov'd
mine.

Glo. Were you well serv'd, you would be taught
your duty.

Q. Mar. To serve me well, you all should do me
duty,

which me to be your Queen, and you my Subjects :
serve me well, and teach yourselves that duty.

Dorset. Dispute not with her, she is lunatick.

Q. Mar. Peace, master Marquis, you are malapert ;
your fire new stamp of honour is scarce current.
that your young nobility could judge
it 'twere to lose it, and be miserable !

[Bottled Spider.] A spider is slender and a belly protuberant.
Richard's form and venom make
her liken him to a spider.

They

254 KING RICHARD III.

They that stand high, have many blasts to shake
them;

And, if they fall, they dash themselves to pieces.

Glo. Good counsel, marry, learn it, learn it, Marquis.

Dorf. It touches you, my Lord, as much as me.

Glo. Ay, and much more; but I was born so high
Our Airy buildeth in the cedar's top,
And dallies with the wind, and scorns the sun.

Q. Mar. And turns the sun to shade;—alas! alas
Witness my son, now in the shade of death;
Whose bright out-shining beams thy cloudy wrath
Hath in eternal darkness folded up.

Your Airy buildeth in our Airy's nest;

O God, that seest it, do not suffer it:

As it was won with blood, so be it lost!

Buck. Peace, peace for shame, if not for charity.

Q. Mar. Urge neither charity nor shame to me:
Uncharitably with me have you dealt,
And shamefully my hopes, by you, are butcher'd.
My charity is outrage, life my shame,
And in my shame still live my sorrows rage!

Buck. Have done, have done.

Q. Mar. O Princely Buckingham, I'll kiss thy hand
In sign of league and amity with thee:
Now fair befall thee, and thy noble House!
Thy garments are not spotted with our blood;
Nor thou within the compass of my curse.

Buck. Nor no one here; for curses never pass
The lips of those that breathe them in the air.

Q. Mar. I'll not believe but they ascend the sky,
And there awake God's gentle-sleeping peace.
O Buckingham, beware of yonder dog;
Look, when he fawns, he bites; and when he bites,
His venom-tooth will rankle to the death;
Have not to do with him, beware of him,
Sin, death, and hell, have set their marks upon him
And all their ministers attend on him.

KING RICHARD III. 255

u. What doth she say, my Lord of *Buckingham*?
ck. Nothing that I respect, my gracious Lord.

Mar. What dost thou scorn me for my gentle counsel?

footh the devil, that I warn thee from?

ut remember this another day,

n he shall split thy very heart with sorrow;

say, poor *Marg'ret* was a Prophetess.

each of you the subject to his hate,

he to you, and all of you to God's!

[*Exit.*

ck. My hair doth stand on end to hear her curses.

v. And so doth mine: I wonder she's at liberty.

o. I cannot blame her, by God's holy Mother;

nath had too much wrong, and I repent

part thereof, that I have done to her.

arf. I never did her any to my knowledge.

o. Yet you have all the 'vantage of her wrong:

s too hot to do somebody good,

t is too cold in thinking of it now.

ry, for *Clarence*, he is well repay'd;

is frank'd up to fatting for his pains,

pardon them, that are the cause thereof!

iv. A virtuous and a christian-like conclusion,

pray for them, that have done scathe to us.

lo. So do I ever, being well advis'd;

had I curst now, I had curst myself.

[*Aside.*

Enter Catesby.

atesf. Madam, his Majesty doth call for you,

for your Grace, and you, my noble Lord.

He is frank'd up to fatting
for his pains.] A *Frank* is

d *English* word for a *bog-fy*.

possible he uses this meta-

to *Clarence*, in allusion to

rest of the family of *York*,

h was a *Boar*. Whereto

relate those famous old verses on
Richard III.

*The cat, the rat, and Lovel the
 dog*

Rule all England under a hog.

He uses the same metaphor in
 the last scene of act 4. *POPE.*

Queen.

286 KING RICHARD III.

Queen. Catesby, we come ; Lords, will you go with us ?

Riv. Madam, we will attend your Grace.

[*Exeunt all but Gloucester.*]

Glo. I do the wrong, and first begin to brawl.
The secret mischiefs, that I set a-broach,
I lay unto the grievous charge of others.
Clarence, whom I indeed have laid in darkness,
I do bewEEP to many simple gulls,
Namely to *Stanley*, *Hastings*, *Buckingham* ;
And tell them 'tis the Queen and her allies
That stir the King against the Duke my brother.
Now they believe it, and withal whet me
To be reveng'd on *Rivers*, *Dorset*, *Gray*.
But then I sigh, and with a piece of Scripture,
Tell them, that God bids us do good for evil :
And thus I clothe my naked villany
With old odd ends, stol'n forth of holy Writ,
And seem a Saint, when most I play the Devil.

Enter two Murderers.

But soft, here come my executioners.
How now, my handy, stout, resolved mates,
Are you now going to dispatch this deed ?

1 Vil. We are, my Lord, and come to have the Warrant,

That we may be admitted where he is.

Glo. Well thought upon, I have it here about me :
When you have done, repair to *Crosby*-place.

But, Sirs, be sudden in the execution,
Withal obdurate, do not hear him plead ;
For *Clarence* is well-spoken, and, perhaps,
May move your hearts to pity, if you mark him.

Vil. Fear not, my Lord, we will not stand to prate ;
Talkers are no good doers ; be assur'd,
We go to use our hands, and not our tongues.

Glo.

KING RICHARD III. 257

o. Your eyes drop mill-stones, when fools' eyes drop tears.

o you, lads—about your business—go. [*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E V.

Changes to the Tower.

Enter Clarence and Brakenbury.

W^HY looks your Grace so heavily to day?
Clar. O, I have past a miserable night,

ill of ugly sights, of ghastly dreams,
as I am a christian ' faithful man,
uld not spend another such a night,
ugh 'twere to buy a world of happy days;
ill of dismal terror was the time.

ak. What was your dream, my Lord? I pray
you, tell me.

ir. Methought, that I had broken from the *Tower*,
was embark'd to cross to *Burgundy*,
in my company my brother *Glo'ster*,
from my Cabin tempted me to walk
n the Hatches: Thence we look'd tow'rd *England*,
cited up a thousand heavy times,
ng the Wars of *York* and *Lancaster*,
had befall'n us. As we pac'd along
n the giddy footing of the Hatches,
hought, that *Glo'ster* stumbled; and in falling
ck me, that sought to stay him, over-board,
the rumbling billows of the main.

l, Lord, methought, what pain it was to drown!
it dreadful noise of waters in my ears!
it sights of ugly death within mine eyes!
ught, I saw a thousand fearful wrecks;
ousand men, that fishes gnaw'd upon;
lges of gold, great anchors, heaps of pearl,
imable stones, unvalued jewels.

¹ *Faithful man.*] Not an infidel.

OL. V.

S

Some

258 KING RICHARD III.

Some lay in dead men's skulls; and in those holes,
Where eyes did once inhabit, there were crept,
As 'twere in scorn of Eyes, reflecting Gems;
² That woo'd the slimy bottom of the Deep,
And mock'd the dead bones that lay scatter'd by.

Brak. Had you such leisure in the time of death,
To gaze upon the Secrets of the Deep?

Clar. Methought, I had; and often did I strive
To yield the ghost; but still the envious flood
Kept in my soul, and would not let it forth
To find the empty, vast, and wand'ring air,
But smother'd it within my panting bulk,
Which almost burst to belch it in the sea.

Brak. Awak'd you not with this sore agony?

Clar. No, no, my dream was length'n'd after life;
O then began the tempest to my soul.

I past, methought, the melancholy flood,
With that grim ferry-man, which Poets write of,
Unto the Kingdom of perpetual Night.

The first that there did greet my stranger soul,
Was my great father-in-law, renowned *Warwick*,
Who cry'd aloud——What scourge for perjury
Can this dark Monarchy afford false *Clarence*?

And so he vanish'd. Then came wand'ring by
A shadow like an angel, with bright hair

Dabbled in blood, and he shriek'd out aloud——

Clarence is come, false, ³ fleeting, perjur'd *Clarence*,
That stabb'd me in the field by *Tewksbury*;

Seize on him, Furies, take him to your torments!—

With that, methought, a legion of foul fiends

Invirion'd me, and howled in mine ears

Such hideous cries, that with the very noise

I, trembling, wak'd; and for a season after

Could not believe but that I was in Hell:

Such terrible impression made my dream.

Brak. No marvel, Lord, that it affrighted you;

² *That woo'd the slimy bottom.*]
By seeming to gaze upon it.

³ *Fleeting* is the same as *chang-*
ing sides.

am afraid, methinks, to hear you tell it.

Clar. Ah! *Brakenbury*, I have done those things,
That now give evidence against my soul,
For *Edward's* sake; and, see, how he requites me!
O God! if my deep prayers cannot appease thee,
But thou wilt be aveng'd on my misdeeds,
Let execute thy wrath on me alone:
O, spare my guiltless wife, and my poor children!
—I pr'ythee, *Brakenbury*, stay by me;
My soul is heavy, and I fain would sleep.

Brak. I will, my Lord; God give your Grace good
rest! [Clarence sleeps.]

Sorrow breaks seasons and reposing hours,
Makes the night morning, and the noon tide night,
Princes have but their titles for their glories,
An outward honour, for an inward toil;
And, for unfelt imaginations,
They often feel a world of restless cares:
So that between their titles, and low name,
There's nothing differs but the outward fame.

SCENE VI.

Enter the two Murderers.

1 Vil. Ho, who's there?

Brak. In God's name, what art thou? how cam'st
thou hither?

⁴ O God! if my deep prayers,
&c.] The four following lines
have been added since the first
edition.

POPE.

¹ Sorrow breaks seasons, &c.]
In the common editions the keep-
er is made to hold the dialogue
with *Clarence* till this line. And
here *Brakenbury* enters, pronoun-
cing these words: which seem
to me a reflection naturally re-
sulting from the foregoing con-
versation, and therefore contin-
ued to be spoken by the same
person, as it is accordingly in
the first edition.

POPE.

⁶ Princes have but their titles

for their glories,
An outward honour, for an in-
ward toil.] The first line
may be understood in this sense.

The glories of princes are nothing
more than empty titles: but it
would more impress the purpose
of the speaker, and correspond
better with the following lines, if
it were read,

Princes have but their titles for
their troubles.

⁷ —For unfelt imaginations,
They often feel a world of rest-
less cares.] They often suf-
fer real miseries for imaginary and
unreal gratifications.

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2 *Vil.* I would speak with *Clarence*, and I came hither on my legs.

Brak. What, so brief?

1 *Vil.* 'Tis better, Sir, than to be tedious.—Let him see our Commission, and talk no more.

Brak. [*Reads.*] I am in this commanded, to deliver The noble Duke of *Clarence* to your hands. I will not reason what is meant hereby, Because I will be guiltless of the meaning. There lies the Duke asleep, and there the keys. I'll to the King, and signify to him, That thus I have resign'd to you my Charge. [*Exit.*]

1 *Vil.* You may, Sir, 'tis a point of wisdom. Fare you well. [*Exit Brakenbury.*]

2 *Vil.* What, shall we stab him as he sleeps?

1 *Vil.* No; he'll say, 'twas done cowardly, when he wakes.

2 *Vil.* When he wakes? why, Fool, he shall never wake until the great Judgment-day.

1 *Vil.* Why, then he'll say, we stabb'd him sleeping.

2 *Vil.* The surging of that word, *Judgment*, hath bred a kind of remorse in me.

1 *Vil.* What? art thou afraid?

2 *Vil.* Not to kill him, having a Warrant for it: But to be damn'd for killing him, from the which no Warrant can defend me.

1 *Vil.* I'll back to the Duke of *Glo'ster*, and tell him so.

2 *Vil.* Nay, pr'ythee, stay a little: I hope, this holy humour of mine will change; it was wont to hold me but while one would tell twenty.

1 *Vil.* How dost thou feel thyself now?

2 *Vil.* Faith, some certain dregs of conscience are yet within me.

1 *Vil.* Remember the reward, when the deed's done.

2 *Vil.* Come, he dies. I had forgot the reward.

1 *Vil.* Where's thy conscience now?

2 *Vil.* O, in the Duke of *Glo'ster's* purse.

1 *Vil.* When he opens his purse to give us our reward, thy conscience flies out.

2 *Vil.* 'Tis no matter, let it go; there's few or none will entertain it.

1 *Vil.* What if it come to thee again?

2 *Vil.* I'll not meddle with it; it is a dangerous Thing, it makes a man a coward: a man cannot steal, but it accuseth him; a man cannot swear, but it checks him; a man cannot lie with his neighbour's wife, but it detects him. 'Tis a blushing sham'd-fac'd spirit, that mutinies in a man's bosom: it fills one full of obstacles. It made me once restore a purse of gold, that by chance I found. It beggars any man, that keeps it. It is turned out of towns and cities for a dangerous thing; and every man, that means to live well, endeavours to trust to himself, and live without it.

1 *Vil.* 'Tis even now at my elbow, persuading me not to kill the Duke.

2 *Vil.* * Take the devil in thy mind, and believe him not: he would insinuate with thee but to make thee sigh.

1 *Vil.* I am strong fram'd, he cannot prevail with me.

2 *Vil.* * Spoke like a tall fellow that respects his reputation. Come, shall we fall to work?

1 *Vil.* Take him over the costard, with the hilt of thy sword; and then throw him into the malmie-butt, in the next room.

2 *Vil.* O excellent device, and make a sop of him.

1 *Vil.* Soft, he wakes. Shall I strike?

* *Take the Devil in thy mind, and believe him not: he would insinuate with thee, &c.*] One villain says, *Conscience* is at his elbows persuading him not to kill the Duke. The other says, take the devil into thy nearer acquaintance, *into thy mind*, who

will be a match for thy conscience, and believe it not, &c. It is plain then, that *HIM* in both places in the text should be *IT*, namely, conscience. WARB.

* *Spoke like a tall fellow.*] The meaning of *tall*, in old *English*, is *flout, daring, fearless* and *strong*.

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2 *Vil.* No, ' we'll reason with him.

Clar. Where art thou, Keeper? give me a cup of wine.

2 *Vil.* You shall have wine enough my Lord, anon.

Clar. In God's name, what art thou?

1 *Vil.* A man, as you are.

Clar. But not, as I am, royal.

1 *Vil.* Nor you, as we are, loyal.

Clar. Thy voice is thunder, but thy looks are humble.

1 *Vil.* My voice is now the King's, my looks mine own.

Clar. How darkly, and how deadly dost thou speak?
—Your eyes do menace me. Why look you pale?
Who sent you hither? wherefore do you come?

Both. To, to, to——

Clar. To murder me?

Both. Ay, ay.

Clar. Ye scarcely have the hearts to tell me so,
And therefore cannot have the hearts to do it.
Wherein, my friends, have I offended you?

1 *Vil.* Offended us you have not, but the King.

Clar. I shall be reconcil'd to him again.

2 *Vil.* Never, my Lord, therefore prepare to die.

Clar. ' Are you call'd forth from out a world of men,
To slay the innocent? what's my offence?
Where is the evidence, that doth accuse me?
What lawful ' Quest have given their verdict up
Unto the frowning judge? or who pronounc'd
'The bitter Sentence of 'poor Clarence' death?
Before I be convict by course of law,
To threaten me with death, is most unlawful.
I charge you, as you hope to have Redemption,
'That you depart, and lay no hands on me:

* *We'll reason.*] We'll talk. it may be better read,

1 *Are you call'd forth from out a world of men.*] I think

Are ye call'd forth.

2 *Quest is inquest* or jury.

KING RICHARD III. 263

the deed, you undertake, is damnable.

1 *Vil.* What we will do, we do upon Command.

2. *Vil.* And he, that hath commanded, is our King.

Clar. Erroneous vassals! the great King of Kings
hath in the Table of his Law commanded,

that thou shalt do no Murder; will you then
turn at his edict, and fulfil a man's?

Take heed, for he holds vengeance in his hand,

to hurl upon their heads that break his law.

2 *Vil.* And that same vengeance doth he hurl on thee
for false forswearing, and for murder too;

thou didst receive the Sacrament, to fight

1 Quarrel of the House of *Lancaster*.

1 *Vil.* And, like a traitor to the name of God,
didst break that vow; and with thy treacherous blade,
snip'dst the bowels of thy Sovereign's son.

2 *Vil.* Whom thou wert sworn to cherish and defend.

1 *Vil.* How canst thou urge God's dreadful Law to us,
When thou hast broke it in such high degree?

Clar. Alas! for whose sake did I that ill deed?

For *Edward*, for my brother, for his sake.

He sends you not to murder me for this,

for in that sin he is as deep as I.

If God will be avenged for the deed,

O, know you yet, he doth it publickly;

Take not the quarrel from his powerful arm;

He needs no indirect, nor lawless course,

To cut off those that have offended him.

1 *Vil.* Who made thee then a bloody minister,

When gallant, ³ springing, brave *Plantagenet*,

That Princely * novice, was struck dead by thee?

Clar. My brother's love, the devil, and my rage.

1 *Vil.* Thy brother's love, our duty, and thy fault,
Provoke us hither now, to slaughter thee.

Clar. If you do love my brother, hate not me:
I am his brother, and I love him well.

³ *Springing* *Plantagenet*.] * *Novice*.] Youth; one yet
Blooming *Plantagenet*; a prince new to the world.
in the *spring* of life.

264 KING RICHARD III

If you are hir'd for Meed, go back again,
And I will send you to my brother *Glo'ster*,
Who will reward you better for my life,
Than *Edward* will for tidings of my death.

2 *Vil.* You are deceiv'd, your brother *Glo'ster* hates
you.

Clar. Oh, no, he loves me, and he holds me dear,
Go you to him from me.

Botb. Ay, so we will.

Clar. Tell him, when that our Princely father *York*
Blest his three sons with his victorious arm,
And charg'd us from his soul to love each other,
He little thought of this divided friendship.
Bid *Glo'ster* think on this, and he will weep.

1 *Vil.* Ay, millstones; as he lesson'd us to weep.

Clar. O do not slander him, for he is kind.

1 *Vil.* As snow in harvest:—you deceive yourself;
'Tis he, that sends us to destroy you here.

Clar. It cannot be, for he bewept my fortune,
And hugg'd me in his arms, and swore with sobs,
That he would labour my delivery.

1 *Vil.* Why, so he doth, when he delivers you
From this earth's thralldom to the joys of heav'n.

2 *Vil.* Make peace with God, for you must die, my
Lord.

Clar. Have you that holy feeling in your soul,
To counsel me to make my peace with God,
And are you yet to your own souls so blind,
That you will war with God, by murd'ring me?
O Sirs, consider, they that set you on
To do this deed, will hate you for the deed.

2 *Vil.* What shall we do?

Clar. Relent, * and save your souls.
Which of you, if you were a Prince's son,

* — and save your souls, &c.]
The two following lines are not
in the old edition. POPE.

They are not necessary, but to

forced in, that something seems
omitted to which these lines are
the answer.

KING RICHARD III. 165

ing pent from liberty, as I am now,
two such murderers, as yourselves, came to you,
ould not intreat for life? ah! you would beg,
ere you in my distress ———

1 *Vil.* Relent? 'tis cowardly and womanish.

Clar. Not to relent, is beastly, savage, devilish.
ly friend, I spy some pity in thy looks:
if thine eye be not a flatterer,

ome thou on my side, and intreat for me.

begging Prince what Beggar pities not? *

2 *Vil.* Look behind you, my Lord.

1 *Vil.* Take that, and that; if all this will not do,
[*Stabs him.*

I drown you in the malmie-butt within. [Exit.

2 *Vil.* A bloody deed, and desp'rately dispatch'd.
How fain, like *Pilate*, would I wash my hands
f this most grievous guilty murder done!

Re-enter first Villain.

1. *Vil.* How now? what mean'st thou, that thou
help'st me not?

heav'n, the Duke shall know how slack you've
been.

2 *Vil.* I would he knew, that I had sav'd his brother!
ake thou the fee, and tell him what I say;
or I repent me, that the Duke is slain. [Exit.

1 *Vil.* So do not I; go, Coward, as thou art.

Well, I'll go hide the body in some hole,
ill that the Duke give order for his burial;
nd, when I have my Meed, I must away;
or this will out, and then I must not stay. [Exit.

* *What beggar pities not.*] I
not but suspect that the lines,
ich Mr. *Pope* observed not to
in the old Edition, are now
isplaced, and should be infer-
d here, somewhat after this
anner.

Clar. A begging Prince what

Beggar pities not?

Vil. A begging Prince!

Clar. Which of you if you were
a Prince's son, &c.

Upon this provocation the Vil-
lain naturally strikes him.

A C T

ACT II. SCENE I.

The COURT.

Enter King Edward sick, the Queen, Dorset, Rivers, Hastings, Catesby, Buckingham, and Woodville.

K. EDWARD.

WHY, so!—Now have I done a good day's work,
You Peers, continue this united league.
I every day expect an embassy
From my Redeemer to redeem me hence.

And now in peace my soul shall part to heaven,
Since I have made my friends at peace on earth.

Hastings and Rivers, take each other's hand;
Dissemble not your hatred; swear your love.

Riv. By heaven, my soul is purg'd from grudging
hate;

And with my hand I seal my true heart's love.

Hast. So thrive I, as I truly swear the like!

K. Edw. Take heed, you dally not before your King;
Lest he, that is the supream King of kings,
Confound your hidden falshood, and award
Either of you to be the other's end.

Hast. So prosper I, as I swear perfect love!

Riv. And I, as I love *Hastings* with my heart!

K. Edw. Madam, yourself is not exempt from this;
Nor your son *Dorset*; *Buckingham*, nor you;
You have been factious one against the other.
Wife, love Lord *Hastings*, let him kiss your hand;
And what you do, do it unfeignedly.

Queen. There, *Hastings*,—I will never more re-
member

Our former hatred; so thrive I and mine;

K. Edw. *Dorset*, embrace him.—*Hastings*, love Lord
Marquis,

Dor.

KING RICHARD III. 267

Dor. This interchange of love, I here protest,
Upon my part, shall be inviolable.

Hast. And so swear I.

K. Edw. Now, princely *Buckingham*, seal thou this
league

With thy embracements to my wife's allies,
And make me happy in your unity.

Buck. When ever *Buckingham* doth turn his hate
Upon your Grace, and not with duteous love

[*To the Queen.*]

Doth cherish you and yours, God punish me
With Hate in those where I expect most love!
When I have most need to employ a friend,
And most assured that he is a friend,
Deep, hollow, treacherous, and full of guile,
Be he to me! This do I beg of heaven,
When I am cold in zeal to you or yours.

[*Embracing Rivers, &c.*]

K. Edw. A pleasing cordial, Princely *Buckingham*,
Is this thy vow unto my sickly heart.
There wanteth now our brother *Glo'ster* here,
To make the blessed period of this peace.

Buck. And, in good time, here comes the noble
Duke.

Enter Gloucester, with Ratcliff.

Glo. Good morrow to my Sovereign.—King and
Queen;

And, Princely Peers, a happy time of day.

K. Edw. Happy, indeed, as we have spent the day;
Brother, we have done deeds of charity;
Made peace of enmity, fair love of hate,
Between these swelling wrong-incensed Peers.

Glo. A blessed labour, my most Sovereign Liege.
Among this Princely heap, if any here
By false intelligence, or wrong surmise,
Held me a foe; if I unwittingly

Have

468 KING RICHARD III.

Have aught committed that is hardly borne
 By any in this presence, I desire
 To reconcile me to his friendly peace.
 'Tis death to me to be at enmity,
 I hate it, and desire all good men's love.
 First, Madam, I intreat true peace of you,
 Which I will purchase with my duteous service;
 Of you, my noble cousin *Buckingham*.
 If ever any grudge were lodg'd between us;
 Of you, and you, Lord *Rivers*, and of *Dorset*,
 That all without desert have frown'd on me;
 Of you, Lord *Woodville*, and Lord *Scales*; of you,
 Dukes, Earls, Lords, Gentlemen; indeed, of all.
 I do not know that *Englishman* alive,
 With whom my soul is any jot at odds,
 More than the infant that is born to night;
 I thank my God for my humility.

Queen. A holy-day shall this be kept hereafter;
 I would to God, all strifes were well compounded!
 —My Sovereign Lord, I do beseech your Highness
 To take our Brother *Clarence* to your grace.

Glo. Why, Madam, have I offer'd love for this,
 To be so flouted in this royal presence?
 Who knows not, that the gentle Duke is dead?

[*They all start.*]

You do him injury to scorn his corpse.

K. Edw. Who knows not, he is dead! who knows,
 he is?

Queen. All-seeing Heaven, what a world is this!

Buck. Look I so pale, Lord *Dorset*, as the rest?

Dor. Ay, my good Lord; and no man in the presence,

But his red colour hath forsook his cheeks.

K. Edw. Is *Clarence* dead?—the order was revers'd.

Glo. But he, poor man, by your first order died,
 And that, a winged *Mercury* did bear.
 Some tardy cripple had the countermand,
 That came too lag to see him buried,

God

KING RICHARD III. 264

d grant, that some less noble, and less loyal,
arer in bloody thoughts, and not in blood,
serve no worse than wretched *Clarence* did,
d yet go current from suspicion!

Enter Lord Stanley.

Stanl. A boon, my Sov'reign, for my service done:

K. *Edw.* I pr'ythee, peace; my soul is full of sorrow,

Stanl. I will not rise, unless your Highness hear me.

K. *Edw.* Then say at once, what is it thou requestest.

Stanl. 'The forfeit, Sov'reign, of my servant's life;
ho slew to day a riotous gentleman,
tely attendant on the Duke of *Norfolk*.

K. *Edw.* 'Have I a tongue to doom my brother's
death?

nd shall that tongue give pardon to a slave?
y brother kill'd no man; his fault was thought;
nd yet his Punishment was bitter death.

'ho sued to me for him? who, in my wrath,
neel'd at my feet, and bid me be advis'd?

'ho spoke of brotherhood? who spoke of love?

'ho told me, how the poor soul did forsake
he mighty *Warwick*, and did fight for me?

'ho told me, in the field at *Tewksbury*,

'hen *Oxford* had me down, he rescu'd me?

nd said, Dear brother, live, and be a King?

'ho told me, when we both lay in the field,

rozen almost to death, how he did lap me

v'n in his garments, and did give himself

ll thin, and naked, to the numb cold night?

ll this from my remembrance brutish wrath

nsfully pluck'd, and not a man of you

¹ *The forfeit.*] He means the
iffice of the forfeit.

² *Have I a tongue to doom my
brother's death?*] This la-
tation is very tender and pa-

thetic. The recollection of the
good qualities of the dead is ve-
ry natural, and no less naturally
does the king endeavour to com-
municate the crime to others.

Had

270 KING RICHARD III.

Had so much grace to put it in my mind.
 But when your carters, or your waiting vassals
 Have done a drunken slaughter, and defac'd
 The precious image of our dear Redeemer;
 You strait are on your knees for pardon, pardon;—
 And I, unjustly too, must grant it you;
 But for my brother not a man would speak,
 Nor I, ungracious, spake unto myself
 For him, poor soul. The proudest of you all
 Have been beholden to him in his life,
 Yet none of you would once plead for his life.
 —O God! I fear, thy justice will take hold
 On me, and you, and mine, and yours, for this.
 —Come, *Hastings*, help me to my closet. Ah!
 Poor *Clarence*! [*Exeunt some with the King and Queen.*]
Glo. These are the fruits of rashness. Mark'd you
 not,

How that the guilty kindred of the Queen
 Look'd pale, when they did hear of *Clarence*' death?
 O! they did urge it still unto the King.
 God will revenge it. Come, Lords, will you go
 To comfort *Edward* with our company? [*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E II.

Enter the Dutchess of York, with the two children of Clarence.

Son. Good Grandam, tell us, is our father dead?

Dutch. No, boy.

Daugh. Why do you weep so oft? and beat your
 breast?

And cry—O *Clarence*! my unhappy son!

Son. Why do you look on us, and shake your
 head,

And call us orphans, wretches, cast-aways,
 If that our noble father be alive?

Dutch. My pretty Cousins, you mistake me both.
 I do

KING RICHARD III. 271

I do lament the sickness of the King,
As loth to lose him; not your father's death;
It were lost sorrow to wail one that's lost.

Son. Then you conclude, my Grandam, he is dead;
The King mine uncle is to blame for this.
God will revenge it, whom I will importune
With daily earnest payers.

Daugh. And so will I.

Dutch. Peace, children, peace! the King doth love
you well.

Incapable and shallow Innocents!

You cannot guess, who caus'd your father's death!

Son. Grandam, we can; for my good uncle *Glo'ster*
Told me, the King, provok'd to't by the Queen,
Devis'd Impeachments to imprison him;
And when my uncle told me so, he wept,
And pitied me, and kindly kist my cheek,
Bade me rely on him, as on my father,
And he would love me dearly as his child.

Dutch. Ah! that deceit should steal such gentle shape;
And with a virtuous vizard hide deep vice!
He is my son, ay, and therein my shame;
Yet from my dugs he drew not this deceit.

Son. Think you, my uncle did dissemble, Grandam?

Dutch. Ay, boy.

Son. I cannot think it. Hark, what noise is this?

*Enter the Queen with her hair about her ears, Rivers
and Dorset after her.*

Queen. Ah! who shall hinder me to wail and weep,
To chide my fortune, and torment myself?
I'll join with black despair against my soul,
And to myself become an enemy.—

Dutch. What means this scene of rude impatience?

Queen. To make an act of tragick violence.

Edward, my lord, thy son, our king, is dead.

Why grow the branches, when the root is gone?

Why

272 KING RICHARD III.

Why wither not the leaves, that want their sap?
If you will live; lament; if die, be brief;
That our swift-winged souls may catch the King's;
Or, like obedient Subjects, follow him
To his new Kingdom of perpetual rest.

Dutch. Ah! so much int'rest have I in thy sorrow,
As I had title to thy noble husband.
I have bewept a worthy husband's death,
And fix'd by looking on ' his images.
But now two mirrors of his Princely semblance
Are crack'd in pieces by malignant death;
And I for comfort have but one false glass,
That grieves me when I see my shame in him.
Thou art a widow, yet thou art a mother,
And hast the comfort of thy children left:
But death hath snatch'd my husband from mine arms,
And pluckt two crutches from my feeble hands;
Clarence and Edward. O, what cause have I,
Thine being but a moiety of my grief
To over-go thy plaints, and drown thy cries.

Son. Ah, Aunt! [*To the Queen*] you wept not for
our father's death;

How can we aid you with our kindred Tears?

Dough. Our fatherless distress was left unmoan'd.
Your widow dolours likewise be unwept!

Queen. Give me no help in Lamentation,
I am not barren to bring forth complaints:
Ah springs reduce their currents to mine eyes,
That I, being govern'd by the wat'ry moon,
May send forth plenteous tears to drown the world.
Ah, for my husband, for my dear Lord *Edward*!

Chil. Ah, for our father, for our dear Lord *Clarence*!

Dutch. Alas, for both, both mine, *Edward* and
Clarence!

⁷ *His images.*] The children
by whom he was represented.

⁸ *Being governed by the wat'ry
moon.*] That I may live here-
after under the influence of the

moon, which governs the tides,
and, by the help of that influ-
ence, drown the world. The
introduction of the moon is not
very natural.

Queen.

KING RICHARD III. 273

Queen. What stay had I, but *Edward*? and he's gone.

il. What stay had we, but *Clarence*? and he's gone.

uscb. What stays had I, but they? and they are gone.

Queen. Was never widow, had so dear a loss.

il. Were never orphans, had so dear a loss.

uscb. Was never mother, had so dear a loss.

! I am the mother of these griefs,
 r woes are parcell'd, mine are general.

for an *Edward* weeps, and so do I;

a *Clarence* weep, so doth not she;

e babes for *Clarence* weep, and so do I;

! you three, on me threefold-distrest

all your tears; I am your sorrow's nurse,

I will pamper it with lamentations.

or. Comfort, dear mother; God is much dis-
 pleased,

with unthankfulness you take his doing.

common worldly things 'tis call'd ungrateful

dull unwillingness to pay a debt,

ch with a bounteous hand was kindly lent,

h more to be thus oppotise with heaven;

it requires the royal debt it lent you.

iv. Madam, bethink you, like a careful mother,

he young Prince your son; send strait for him,

him be crown'd; in him your comfort lives.

vn desp'rate sorrow in dead *Edward's* grave,

plant your joys in living *Edward's* Throne.

SCENE III.

r Gloucester, Buckingham, Stanley, Hastings,
and Ratcliff.

o. Sister, have comfort. All of us have cause
 rail the dimming of our shining star;

OL. V.

T

Put

274 KING RICHARD III.

But none can help our harms by wailing them.
Madam, my mother, I do cry you mercy ;
I did not see you. — Humbly on my knee
I crave your Blessing.

Dutch. God bleſs thee, and put meekneſs in thy
breast,

Love, charity, obedience, and true duty.

Glo. Amen, and make me die a good old man ; —
That is the butt end of a mother's Blessing ;
I marvel, that her Grace did leave it out.

Buck. You cloudy Princes, and heart-forrowing
Peers,

That bear this mutual heavy load of moan,
Now chear each other in each other's love ;
Though we have ſpent our harveſt of this King,
We are to reap the harveſt of his ſon.

The broken rancour of your high-ſwolln hearts,
But lately ſplinter'd, knit and join'd together,
Muſt gently be preſerv'd, cheriſh'd and kept :
Me ſeemeth good, that, with ſome little train,
Forthwith from *Ludlow* the young Prince be fetch'd,
Hither to *London*, to be crown'd our King.

Riv. Why with ſome little train, my Lord of
Buckingham ?

Buck. Marry, my Lord, left by a multitude
The new-heal'd wound of malice ſhould break out ;
Which would be ſo much the more dangerous,
By how much the eſtate is yet ungovern'd.
Where every horſe bears his commanding rein,

¹ *Forthwith from Ludlow the young prince be fetch'd,*] Edward the young prince in his Father's Life-time and at his Decease, kept his Houſhold at *Ludlow* as Prince of *Wales* ; under the Governance of *Antony Woodville* Earl of *Rivers*, his Uncle by the Mother's ſide. The In-

tention of his being ſent thither was to ſee Juſtice done in the *Marches* ; and, by the Authority of his Preſence, to reſtrain the *Welſhmen*, who were wild, diſſolute, and ill-diſpoſed, from their accuſtomed Murders and Outrages. *Ibid.* Hall, *Holinghead*, &c. THEOBALD.

And

ING RICHARD III. 275

rect his course as please himself.
 fear of harm, as harm apparent,
 on ought to be prevented.
 pe, the King made peace with all of us;
 npact is firm, and true in me.
 d so in me; and so, I think, in all.
 s but green, it should be put
 rent likelihood of breach,
 oly, by much company might be urg'd;
 say, with noble *Buckingham*,
 meet so few should fetch the Prince.
 d so say I.
 n be it so; and go we to determine,
 hall be that strait shall post to *Ludlow*.
 and you my sister, will you go,
 or censures in this weighty business?

[*Exeunt.*

[*Manent Buckingham and Gloucester.*
 y Lord, whoever journeys to the Prince,
 like, let not us Two stay at home;
 way, I'll sort occasion,
 the story we late talk'd of,
 Queen's proud kindred from the Prince.
 other self, my counsel's consistory,
 my prophet;—My dear cousin,
 l, will go by thy direction.
 How then, for we'll not stay behind.

[*Exeunt.*

S C E N E IV.

Changes to a Street near the Court.

citizen at one door, and another at the other.

OOD morrow, neighbour, whither away
 so fast?

promise you, I hardly know myself:

T 2

Hear

276 KING RICHARD III.

Hear you the news abroad?

1 *Cit.* Yes, the King's dead.

2 *Cit.* Ill News, by'r lady; seldom comes a better
I fear, I fear, 'twill prove a giddy world.

Enter another Citizen.

3 *Cit.* Neighbours, God speed!

1 *Cit.* Give you good morrow, Sir.

3 *Cit.* Doth the news hold of good King *Edward*
death?

2 *Cit.* Ay, Sir, it is too true; God help, there

3 *Cit.* Then, masters, look to see a troublous

1 *Cit.* No, no, by God's good grace his son shall

3 *Cit.* Wo to that Land that's govern'd by a

2 *Cit.* In him there is a hope of government,

• Which in his nonage, council under him,

And, in his full and ripen'd years himself,

No doubt shall then, and till then, govern well.

1 *Cit.* So stood the State, when *Henry* the sixth
Was crown'd in *Paris*, but at nine months old.

3 *Cit.* Stood the State so? no, no, good for
God wot;

For then this Land was famously enrich'd
With politick grave counsel; then the King
Had virtuous Uncles to protect his Grace.

1 *Cit.* Why, so hath this, both by his father
mother.

3 *Cit.* Better it were they all came by his father
Or by his father there were none at all:

For emulation, who shall now be nearest,
Will touch us all too near, if God prevent not.

O, full of danger is the Duke of *Gloster*;

And the Queen's sons and brothers haughty, proud
And were they to be rul'd, and not to rule,

• *Which in his nonage.*] The I believe a line to be lost in
word *which* has no antecedent, some mention was made
nor can the sense or connection Land or the People.
be easily restored by any change.

KING RICHARD III. 277

This sickly land might solace as before.

1 *Cit.* Come, come, we fear the worst; all will be well.

3 *Cit.* When clouds are seen, wise men put on their cloaks?

When great leaves fall, then winter is at hand;
When the Sun sets, who doth not look for night?
Untimely storms make men expect a dearth.

All may be well; but if God sort it so,
'Tis more than we deserve or I expect.

2 *Cit.* Truly, the hearts of men are full of fear,
You cannot reason almost with a man
That looks not heavily, and full of dread.

3 *Cit.* Before the days of change, still is it so;
By a divine instinct men's minds mistrust
Ensuing danger; as by proof we see,
The waters swell before a boist'rous storm.
But leave it all to God. Whither away?

2 *Cit.* Marry, we were sent for to the justices.

3 *Cit.* And so was I, I'll bear you company. [*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E V.

Changes to the Court.

*Enter Archbishop of York, the young Duke of York,
the Queen, and the Dutchess of York.*

Arch. I Heard, they lay the last night at *Northampton*,

At *Stony Stratford* they do rest to night;
To morrow, or next day, they will be here.

Dutch. I long with all my heart to see the Prince;
I hope, he is much grown since last I saw him.

Queen. But I hear, not; they say, my son of *York*
Has almost over-ta'en him in his growth.

York. Ay, mother, but I would not have it so.

Dutch. Why, my young Cousin, it is good to grow.

York. Grandam, one night as we did sit at supper,

278 KING RICHARD III.

My uncle *Rivers* talk'd how I did grow
More than my brother. Ay, quoth my uncle *Glo'ster*,
Small herbs have grace, great weeds do grow apace.
And since, methinks, I would not grow so fast,
Because sweet flow'rs are slow, and weeds make haste.

Dutch. Good faith, good faith, the saying did not
hold

In him, that did object the same to thee.
He was ² the wretched'st thing, when he was young;
So long a growing, and so leisurely,
That, if his Rule were true, he should be gracious.

York. And so, no doubt, he is, my gracious Madam.

Dutch. I hope, he is; but yet let mothers doubt.

York. Now, by my troth, if I had ³ been re-
member'd

I could have giv'n my Uncle's Grace a flout
To touch his growth, nearer than he touch'd mine.

Dutch. How, my young *York*? I pr'ythee, let me
hear it.

York. Marry, they say, my uncle grew so fast,
That he could gnaw a trust at two hours old;
'Twas full two years ere I could get a tooth.
Grandam, this would have been a biting jest.

Dutch. I pr'ythee, pretty *York*, who told thee this?

York. Grandam, his nurse.

Dutch. His nurse! why, she was dead ere thou wast
born.

York. If 'twere not she, I cannot tell who told me.

Queen. A per'lous boy—go to; you are too shrewd.

Lut.b. Good Madam, be not angry with a child.

Queen. Fishers have ears,

² — the wretched'st thing.]
Wretched is here used in a sense
yet retained in familiar language,
for paltry, pitiful, being below
expectation,

³ *Been remembered.*] *To be re-
membered* is in *Shakespeare*, to have
one's memory quick, to have
one's thoughts about one.

Enter

Enter a Messenger.

Arch. Here comes a Messenger : what news ?

Mes. Such news, my Lord, as grieves me to report.

Queen. How doth the Prince ?

Mes. Well, Madam, and in health.

Dutch. What is thy news ?

Mes. Lord *Rivers* and Lord *Gray* are sent to *Pomfret*,
With them, Sir *Thomas Vaughan*, prisoners.

Dutch. Who hath committed them ?

Mes. The mighty Dukes,
Gloster and *Buckingham*.

Queen. * For what offence ?

Mes. The sum of all I can, I have disclos'd ;
Why, or for what, the Nobles were committed,
Is all unknown to me, my gracious lady.

Queen. Ah me ! I see the ruin of my house ;
The tyger now hath seiz'd the gentle hind.
Insulting tyranny begins to jut
Upon the innocent and ⁴awless throne ?
Welcome, destruction, blood and massacre !
I see, as in a map, the end of all.

Dutch. Accursed and unquiet wrangling days !
How many of you have mine eyes beheld ;
My husband lost his life to get the Crown,
And often up and down my sons were tost,
For me to joy, and weep, their gain, and loss.
And being seated, and domestick broils
Clean over-blown, themselves the Conquerors
Make war upon themselves, blood against blood,
Self against self ; O most preposterous
And frantick outrage ; end thy damned spleen ;
Or let me die, to look on death no more.

Queen.

* For what offence ?] This question is given to the Archbishop in former copies, but the messenger plainly speaks to the Queen or Dutches.
⁴ Awless.] Not producing awe, not revered. To jut upon, is to encroach.
⁵ Or let me die, to look on Earth no more.] This is the Reading of all the Copies, from the first Edition put out by the Players, down-

280 KING RICHARD III.

Queen. Come, come, my boy, we will to Sanctuary.
—Madam, farewell.

Dutch. Stay, I will go with you.

Queen. You have no cause.

Arch. My gracious lady, go,
And thither bear your treasure and your goods.
For my part, I'll resign unto your Grace
The Seal I keep; and so betide it me,
As well I tender you and all of yours!
—Go, I'll conduct you to the Sanctuary. [Exeunt,

ACT III. SCENE I.

In LONDON.

The Trumpets sound. Enter Prince of Wales, the Dukes of Gloucester and Buckingham, Archbishop, with others.

BUCKINGHAM.

WELCOME, sweet Prince, to London, ⁶ to your chamber.

Glo. Welcome, dear Cousin, my thought's Sovereign,
The weary way hath made you melancholy.

Prince. No, Uncle, but our crosses on the way
Have made it tedious, wearisome, and heavy.
I want more Uncles here to welcome me.

Glo. Sweet Prince, th'untainted virtue of your years

downwards. But I have restored the reading of the old *Quarto* in 1667, which is copied by all the other authentic *Quarto*'s, by which the Thought is finely and properly improved.

Or let me die, to look on Death
no more.

THOROLD.
⁶ —to your Chamber] *London* was anciently called *Camera regia*.
Hath

KING RICHARD III. 281

Hath not yet div'd into the world's deceit,
Nor more can you distinguish of a man,
Than of his outward shew, which, God he knows,
Seldom or never jumpeth with the heart.
Those Uncles, which you want, were dangerous;
Your Grace attended to their sugar'd words,
But look'd not on the poison of their hearts.
God keep you from them, and from such false friends!

Prince. God keep me from false friends! but they
were none.

Glo. My lord, the *Mayor* of *London* comes to greet
you.

Enter Lord Mayor.

Mayor. God bless your Grace with health and hap-
py days!

Prince. I thank you, good my Lord, and thank
you all:

I thought my mother and my brother *York*,
Would long ere this have met us on the way.
Fie, what a slug is *Hastings*? that he comes not
To tell us, whether they will come or no.

Enter Lord Hastings.

Buck. And in good time here comes the sweating
lord.

Prince. Welcome, my lord, what will our mo-
ther come?

Hast. On what occasion God he knows, not I,
The Queen your mother and your brother *York*,
Have taken Sanctuary; the tender Prince
Would fain have come with me to meet your Grace,
But by his mother was perforce with-held.

Buck. Fie, what an indirect and peevish course
Is this of hers? Lord Cardinal, will your Grace
Persuade the Queen to send the Duke of *York*
Unto his Princely Brother presently?

If

If she deny, lord *Hastings*, you go with him,
And from her jealous arms pluck him perforce.

Arch. My lord of *Buckingham*, if my weak oratory
Can from his mother win the Duke of *York*,
Anon expect him here; but if she be
Obdurate to entreaties, God forbid,
We should infringe the holy privilege
Of Sanctuary! not for all this land
Would I be guilty of so deep a sin.

Buck. You are too senseless-obstinate, my Lord;
7 Too ceremonious and traditional.
* Weigh it but with the Grossness of this age,
You break not Sanctuary, in seizing him;
The benefit thereof is always granted
To those, whose dealings have deserv'd the place;
And those, who have the wit to claim the place;
This Prince hath neither claim'd it, nor deserv'd it;
Therefore, in mine opinion, cannot have it;
Then taking him from thence, that is not there,

7 Too ceremonious and traditional.] *Ceremonious* for superstitious; *traditional* for adherent to old customs. WARBURTON.

* *Weigh it but with the GROSSNESS of THIS age.*] But the more *gross*, that is, the more superstitious the age was, the stronger would be the imputation of violated sanctuary. The question, we see, by what follows, is whether sanctuary could be claimed by an infant. The speaker resolves it in the negative, because it could be claimed by those only whose actions necessitated them to fly thither; or by those who had an understanding to demand it; neither of which could be an infant's case: It is plain then, the first line, which introduces this reasoning,

should be read thus,

Weigh it but with the GROSSNESS of his age.

i. e. the young Duke of *York*, whom his mother had fled with to sanctuary. The corrupted reading of the old quarto is something nearer the true.

— the greatness of his age.

WARBURTON.

This emendation is received by *Hanmer*, and is very plausible; yet the common reading may stand. *Weigh it but with the grossness of this age, you break not sanctuary.* That is, compare the act of seizing him with the *gross* and licentious practices of these times, it will not be considered as a violation of sanctuary, for you may give such reasons as men are now used to admit.

You break no Privilege nor Charter there.

Oft have I heard of Sanctuary-men,

But Sanctuary-children ne'er till now.

Arch. My Lord, you shall o'er-rule my mind for once.

Come on, Lord *Hastings*, will you go with me?

Hast. I go, my Lord.

Prince. Good Lords, make all the speedy haste you may. [*Exeunt Archbishop and Hastings.*]

Now, Uncle *Gloster*, if our Brother come,

Where shall we sojourn till our Coronation?

Glo. Where it seems best unto your royal self:

If I may counsel you, some day or two

Your Highness shall repose you at the *Tower*:

Then, where you please, and shall be thought most fit for your best health and recreation.

Prince. I do not like the *Tower* of any place.

Did *Julius Cæsar* build that place, my Lord?

Buck. He did, my gracious Lord, begin that place, Which since, succeeding ages have re-edify'd.

Prince. Is it upon record, or else reported incessively from age to age, he built it?

Buck. Upon record, my gracious Lord.

Prince. But say, my Lord, it were not register'd, Methinks the truth should live from age to age,

As 'twere retail'd to all Posterity; Even to the general all-ending day.

Glo. So wise, so young, they say, do ne'er live long. [*Aside.*]

Prince. What say you, Uncle?

Glo. I say, without characters Fame lives long.

9 As 'twere RETAIL'D to all Posterity;] And so it is: And by that means, like most other retail'd things, became adulterated. We should read,

—INTAIL'd to all Posterity; which is finely and sensibly ex-

pressed, as if truth was the natural inheritance of our children; which it is impiety to deprive them of. *WARBURTON.*

Retailed may signify diffused, dispersed,

Thus

Thus, like the formal vice, Iniquity,
I moralize : Two Meanings in one word.

} *Aside.*
Prince.

* Thus like the formal Vice, Iniquity, I moralize two Meanings in one Word.] By Vice, the Author means not a Quality but a Person. There was hardly an old Play, till the Period of the Reformation, which had not in it a Devil, and a droll Character, a Jester ; (who was to play upon the Devil ;) and this Buffoon went by the Name of a Vice. This Buffoon was at first accoutred with a long Jerkin, a Cap with a Pair of Ass's Ears, and a wooden Dagger, with which (like another Arlequin) he was to make Sport in belabouring the Devil. This was the constant Entertainment in the Times of Popery, whilst Spirits, and Witchcraft, and Exorcising held their own. When the Reformation took place, the Stage shook off some Grossities, and encreased in Refinements. The Master-Devil then was soon dismissed from the Scene ; and this Buffoon was changed into a subordinate Fiend, whose Business was to range on Earth, and seduce poor Mortals into that personated vicious Quality, which he occasionally supported ; as, Iniquity, in general, Hypocrisy, Usury, Vanity, Prodigality, Gluttony, &c. Now as the Fiend, (or Vice,) who personated Iniquity (or Hypocrisy, for Instance) could never hope to play his Game to the Purpose but by hiding his cloven Foot, and assuming a Semblance quite different from his real Charac-

ter ; he must certainly put on a formal Demeanour, moralize and prevaricate in his Words, and pretend a Meaning directly opposite to his genuine and primitive Intention. If this does not explain the Passage in Question, 'tis all that I can at present suggest upon it. THROBOLD.

Thus like the formal Vice, INIQUITY,

I moralize two meanings in one word.] That the buffoon, or jester of the old English farces, was called the Vice is certain : and that, in their moral representations, it was common to bring in the deadly sins, is true. Of these we have yet several remains. But that the Vice used to assume the personage of these sins, is a fancy of Mr. Throbbald's, who knew nothing of the matter. The truth is, the Vice was always a fool or jester : And, (as the Woman, in the Merchant of Venice, calls the Clown, alluding to this Character,) a merry Devil. Whereas these mortal sins were so many sad, serious ones. But what misled our editor was the name Iniquity, given to this Vice : But it was only on account of his unhappy tricks and rogueries. That it was given to him, and for the reason I mention, appears from the following passage of *Johannes's Staple of News*, second inter-meane.

M. How like you the Vice in the play ?

C. Here is never a fend to car-

That *Julius Cæsar* was a famous man ;
his valour did enrich his wit,

His

Besides he has no dagger.

was the old way, Iniquity came in like in a Jugler's Jerkin, erts like the Knave of

Devil's an Assi, we Vice, Iniquity, de-at large.

this, it may be ga- the text, where pares himself to the niquity, must be cor- the interpolation of player. The *Vice* being not a *formal*, buffoon character.

Shakespeare could never act speaker refer to er, because the sub- pon is *Tradition* and hich have no relation because it appears urn of the passage, pologizing for his e- by a *reputable* prac- keep the reader no spence my conjecture *Shakespeare* wrote and lines in this manner, the FORMAL-WISE ity

Two meanings in

the *Mythologic* learn- antients, of whom here speaking. So *Shakespeare's* ironical apology effect, You men of so much extol your iniquity, in what am I it? which was but an

equivocator as I am. And it is remarkable, that the *Greeks* them- selves called their remote anti- quity, *Διχόμυθος* or the *equivoca- tor*. So far as to the general sense ; as to that which arises particularly out of the corrected expression, I shall only observe that *formal-wise* is a compound epithet, an extreme fine one, and admirably fitted to the cha- racter of the speaker, who thought all *wisdom* but *formality*. It must therefore be read for the future with a hyphen. My o- ther observation is with regard to the pointing ; the common read- ing,

I moralize two meanings—

is nonsense : but reformed in this manner, very sensible,

Thus like the formal-wise Anti- quity

I moralize : Two meanings in one word.

i. e. I moralize as the antients did. And how was that? the having two meanings to one word. A ridicule on the mora- lity of the antients, which he in- sinuates was no better than equi- vocating. WARBURTON.

This alteration Mr. *Upton* ve- ry justly censures. Dr. *Warbur- ton* has, in my opinion, done no- thing but correct the punctua- tion, if indeed any alteration be really necessary. See the disser- tation on the old *Vice* at the end of this play.

To this long collection of notes may be added a question, to what equivocation *Risbard*

286 KING RICHARD III.

His wit set down to make his valour live.
Death makes no conquest of this conqueror;
For now he lives in fame, though not in life.
—I'll tell you what, my cousin *Buckingham*.

Buck. What, my gracious Lord?

Prince. An if I live until I be a man,
I'll win our ancient Right in *France* again,
Or die a soldier, as I liv'd a King.

Glo. Short summer ² lightly has a forward spring,
[*Aside.*]

Enter York, Hastings, and Archbishop.

Buck. Now in good time here comes the duke of
York.

Prince. *Richard* of *York*, how fares our noble
brother?

York. Well, my ³ dread Lord, so must I call you
now.

Prince. Ay, brother, to our grief, as it is yours;
⁴ Too late he dy'd that might have kept that title,
Which by his death hath lost much majesty.

Glo. How fares our Cousin, noble Lord of *York*?

York. I thank you, gentle Uncle. O my Lord,
You said, that idle weeds are fast in growth,
The Prince my brother hath outgrown me far.

Glo. He hath, my Lord.

refers? The position immediately preceding, that *Fame lives long without characters*, that is, without the help of letters, seems to have no ambiguity. He must allude to the former line,

*So young, so wise they say did
he live long,*
in which he conceals under a proverb, his design of hastening the Prince's death.

² *Lightly*, commonly, in ordinary course.

³ *Dread Lord.*] The original of this epithet applied to Kings has been much disputed. In some of our old statutes the King is called *Rex metuendissimus*.

⁴ *Too late he died*—] i. e. too lately, the loss is too fresh in our memory. But, the *Oxford Editor* makes him say,

Too soon he died— WARB.

York.

KING RICHARD III. 287

rk. And therefore is he idle?

o. Oh, my fair Cousin, I must not say so.

rk. Then is he more beholden to you than I.

o. He may command me as my Sovereign,
you have pow'r in me, as in a kinsman.

rk. I pray you, Uncle, give me this your dagger.

o. My dagger, little cousin? with all my heart.

ince. A beggar, brother?

rk. Of my kind Uncle, that I know will give;
I being but a toy, which is no gift to give.

o. A greater gift than that I'll give my cousin.

rk. A greater gift? O, that's the sword to it.

o. Ay, gentle Cousin, were it light enough.

rk. O, then I see, you'll part but with light gifts;
lighter things you'll say a beggar nay.

o. It is too weighty for your Grace to wear.

rk. ⁶ I weigh it lightly, were it heavier.

o. What would you have my weapon, little Lord?

rk. I would, that I might thank you, as you call
me.

o. How?

rk. Little.

ince. My Lord of York will still be cross in talk;
o, your Grace knows how to bear with him.

rk. You mean to bear me, not to bear with me;
o, my brother mocks both you and me.

ause that I am little like an ape,

*nd being but a toy which is
o gift to give.]* This is the
g of the quartos; the first
eds,

*being but a toy, which is
grief to give.*

ading made a little more
il, has been followed, I
rroneously, by all the edi-

weigh it lightly, &c.] i. e.
d still esteem it but a trif-
st were it heavier. But

the Oxford Editor reads,

I'd weigh it lightly,

i. e. I could manage it, tho' it
were heavier. WARBURTON.

⁷ *Because that I am little like
an ape.]* The reproach seems

to consist in this: at country
shews it was common to set the
monkey on the back of some o-
ther animal, as a Bear. The
Duke, therefore, in calling him-
self *Ape*, calls his uncle *Bear*.

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He thinks, that you should bear me on your shoulders.

Buck. With what a sharp-provided wit he reasons!
To mitigate the scorn he gives his Uncle,
He prettily and aptly taunts himself;
So cunning, and so young, is wonderful.

Glo. My Lord, will't please you pass along?
Myself, and my good cousin *Buckingham*
Will to your mother, to entreat of her
To meet you at the *Tower*, and welcome you.

York. What will you go unto the *Tower*, my
Lord?

Prince. My Lord Protector, needs will have it so.

York. I shall not sleep in quiet at the *Tower*.

Glo. Why, what should you fear?

York. Marry, my uncle *Clarence*' angry ghost;
My Grandam told me, he was murther'd there.

Prince. I fear no Uncles dead.

Glo. Nor none that live, I hope.

Prince. An if they live, I hope, I need not fear.
—But come, my Lord, and with a heavy heart,
Thinking on them, go I unto the *Tower*.

[*Exeunt Prince, York, Hastings and Dorset.*]

SCENE II.

Manent Gloucester, Buckingham, and Catesby.

Buck. Think you, my Lord, this little prating *York*
Was not incensed by his subtle mother
To taunt and scorn you thus opprobriously?

Glo. No doubt, no doubt. Oh, 'tis a per'lous boy,
Bold, quick, ingenious, forward, capable;
He's all the mother's, from the top to toe.

Buck. Well, let them rest. Come, *Catesby*, thou
art sworn

As deeply to effect what we intend,
As closely to conceal what we impart.

Thou know'st our reasons urg'd upon the way;
What

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think'st thou? is it not an easy matter
to Lord *William Hastings* of our mind,
to instalment of this noble Duke
to eat royal of this famous isle?

He for his father's sake so loves the Prince,
he will not be won to aught against him.
What think'st thou then of *Stanley*? will
not he?

He will do all in all as *Hastings* doth.
Well then, no more than this. Go, gentle
Catesby,

as it were far off, sound thou Lord *Hastings*
he doth stand affected to our purpose;
summon him to-morrow to the *Tower*,
about the coronation.

doft find him tractable to us,
urge him, and tell him all our Reasons;
he leaden, icy, cold, unwilling,
so too, and so break off the talk,
give us notice of his inclination;
to-morrow hold a divided councils,
in thyself shalt highly be employ'd.
Commend me to Lord *William*; tell him,
Catesby,

ancient knot of dangerous adversaries
now are let blood at *Pomfret*-castle;
and my friend, for joy of this good news,
mistress *Shore* one gentle kiss the more.

Good *Catesby*, go, effect this business soundly.

My good Lords both, with all the heed I can.

Shall we hear from you, *Catesby*, ere we sleep?

You shall, my Lord.

At *Crosby*-place, there you shall find us both.

[Exit *Catesby*.]

My Lord, what shall we do, if we perceive,

[divided councils.] That is, council. So, in the next scene,
the consultation, separate *Hastings* says, Bid him not fear
the known and publick the separated councils.

DL. V.

U

Lord

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Lord *Hastings* will not yield to our complots?

Glo. Chop off his head, man; somewhat we will do,
And look, when I am King, claim thou of me
The Earldom of *Hereford*, and the moveables
Whereof, the King, my brother, stood possessor.

Buck. I'll claim that promise at your Grace's hand.

Glo. And look to have it yielded with all kindness.
Come, let us sup betimes; that, afterwards,
We may digest our complots in some form. [Exeunt.]

SCENE III.

Before Lord Hastings's House.

Enter a Messenger to the door of Hastings.

Mes. MY Lord, my Lord,——
Hast. [within.] Who knocks?

Mes. One from Lord *Stanley*.

Hast. What is't o'clock?

Mes. Upon the stroke of four.

Enter Lord Hastings.

Hast. Cannot thy master sleep these tedious nights?

Mes. So it appears, by what I have to say.
First, he commends him to your noble self.

Hast. What then?

Mes. Then certifies your Lordship, that this night
He dreamt, the Boar had rased off his helm.
Besides, he says, there are two councils held;
And that may be determin'd at the one,
Which may make you and him to rue at th' other.
Therefore he sends to know your Lordship's pleasure,
If you will presently take horse with him,
And with all speed post with him tow'ards the north;
To shun the danger that his soul divines.

Hast. Go, fellow, go, return unto thy Lord,

Bid

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him not fear the separated Councils :
 honour, and myself, are at the one ;
 at the other, is my good friend *Catesby* ;
 ere nothing can proceed, that toucheth us,
 ereof I shall not have intelligence.
 him, his fears are shallow, ' wanting instance ;
 for his dreams, I wonder, he's so fond
 to trust the mock'ry of unquiet slumbers.
 'y the boar, before the boar pursues,
 to incense the boar, to follow us,
 make pursuit, where he did mean no chase.
 Had thy master rise and come to me,
 we will both together to the Tower,
 ere, he shall see, the boar will use us kindly.
 'f. I'll go, my Lord, and tell him what you
 say. [Exit.

Enter Catesby.

tesf. Many good morrows to my noble Lord !
ist. Good morrow, *Catesby*. You are early stirring ;
 t news, what news, in this our tott'ring State ?
tesf. It is a reeling world, indeed, my Lord ;
 I believe, will never stand upright,
Richard wear the garland of the realm.
ist. How ! wear the garland ? dost thou mean the
 crown ?
tesf. Ay, my good Lord.
ist. I'll have this crown of mine cut from my
 shoulders,
 ere I'll see the crown so foul misplac'd.
 Canst thou guess that he doth aim at it ?
tesf. Ay, on my life ; and hopes to find you for-
 ward

*Wanting instance.] That is, is nearer to the true meaning,
 'g some example or act of wanting any immediate ground
 lence, by which they may or reason.
 ified ; or which, perhaps,*

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Upon his party, for the gain thereof;
And thereupon he sends you this good news,
That this same very day your enemies,
The kindred of the Queen, must die at *Pomfret*.

Hast. Indeed, I am no mourner for that news,
Because they have been still my adversaries;
But that I'll give my voice on *Richard's* side,
To bar my master's heirs in true descent,
God knows, I will not do it, to the death.

Cates. God keep your Lordship in that gracious
mind!

Hast. But I shall laugh at this a twelve-month hence,
That they, who brought me in my master's hate,
I live to look upon their tragedy.

Well, *Catesby*, ere a fortnight make me older,
I'll send some packing that yet think not on't.

Cates. 'Tis a vile thing to die, my gracious Lord,
When men are unprepar'd and look not for it.

Hast. O monstrous, monstrous! and so falls it out
With *Rivers*, *Vaughan*, *Gray*; and so 'twill do
With some men else, who think themselves as safe
As thou and I; who, as thou know'st, are dear
To princely *Richard* and to *Buckingham*.

Cates. The princes both make high account of
you——

For they account his head upon the bridge. [*Aside.*]

Hast. I know, they do; and I have well deserv'd it.

Enter Lord Stanley.

Come on, come on, where is your boar-spear, man?
Fear you the boar, and go so unprovided?

Stanl. My Lord, good morrow; and, good mor-
row, *Catesby*;

You may jest on, but, by the holy rood,
I do not like these several Councils, I.

Hast. My Lord,
I hold my life as dear as you do yours.

And

And never in my days, I do protest,
Was it so precious to me as 'tis now;
Think you, but that I know our state secure,
I would be so triumphant as I am?

Stanl. The Lords at *Pomfret*, when they rode from
London,

Were jocund, and suppos'd their states were sure;
And they, indeed, had no cause to mistrust;
But yet, you see, how soon the day o'er-cast.
This sudden stab of rancor I misdoubt;
Pray God, I say, I prove a needless coward!
What, shall we tow'rd the *Tower*? the day is spent.

Hast. Come, come, 'have with you.—Wot ye
what, my Lord?

To day the Lords, you talk of, are beheaded.

Stanl. * They, for their truth, might better wear
their heads,
Than some, that have accus'd them, wear their hats.
—But come, my Lord, away.

Enter a Pursuivant.

Hast. Go on before, I'll talk with this good fellow.
[*Exeunt Lord Stanley and Catesby.*]

Sirrah, how now? how goes the world with thee?

Purs. The better, that your Lordship please to ask.

Hast. I tell thee, man, 'tis better with me now,
Than when thou met'st me last where now we meet;
Then I was going prisoner to the *Tower*,
By the suggestion of the Queen's allies,
But now I tell thee (keep it to thyself,)
This day those enemies are put to death,
And I in better state, than e'er I was.

Purs. God * hold it to your Honour's good content!

* *Have with you.*] A familiar phrase in parting, as much as, *take something along with you*, or *I have something to say to you*.

* *They, for their truth.*] That is, with respect to their *honesty*.

* *Hold it*, that is, *continue it*.

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Hast. Gramercy, fellow, there, drink that for me.

[*Throws him his purse.*]

Purs. I thank your Honour. [*Exit Pursuivant.*]

Enter a Priest.

Priest. Well met, my Lord, I'm glad to see your Honour,

Hast. I thank thee, good Sir *John*, with all my heart.

I'm in your debt for your last * exercise:

Come the next sabbath, and I will content you.

[*He whispers.*]

Enter Buckingham.

Buck. What, talking with a Priest, Lord Chamberlain?

Your friends at *Pomfret* they do need a Priest,
Your Honour hath no ³ thriving work in hand.

Hast. Good faith, and when I met this holy man,
The men, you talk of, came into my mind.
What, go you tow'rd the *Tower*?

Buck. I do, my Lord, but long I shall not stay;
I shall return before your Lordship thence.

Hast. Nay, like enough, for I stay dinner there.

Buck. And supper too, altho' thou know'st it not.
[*Aside.*]

Come, will you go?

Hast. I'll wait upon your Lordship. [*Exeunt.*]

* *Exercise.*] Performance of ³ *Thriving work* is *Christ's*
divine service. *son,*

SCENE

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S C E N E IV.

Changes to Pomfret-Castle.

Enter Sir Richard Ratcliff, with halberds, carrying Lord Rivers, Lord Richard Gray, and Sir Thomas Vaughan to Death.

Rat. COME, bring forth the prisoners.

Riv. Sir Richard Ratcliff, let me tell thee this;

To day shalt thou behold a subject die
For truth, for duty, and for loyalty.

Gray. God keep the Prince from all the pack of you,
A knot you are of damned blood-suckers.

Vaugh. You live, that shall cry woe for this here-
after.

Rat. Dispatch; the limit of your lives is out.

Riv. O Pomfret, Pomfret! O thou bloody prison,
Fatal and ominous to noble Peers!

Within the guilty closure of thy walls

Richard the Second, here, was hack'd to death:

And, for more slander to thy dismal seat,

We give to thee our guiltless blood to drink.

Gray. Now, *Marg'et's* curse is fall'n upon our
heads,

When she exclaim'd on *Hastings*, you, and I,
For standing by when *Richard* stab'd her son.

Riv. Then curs'd she *Richard*, curs'd she *Buck-
ingham*,

Then curs'd she *Hastings*. O remember, God!

To hear her prayer for them, as now for us.

As for my sister and her princely sons,

Be satisfy'd, dear God, with our true blood;

Which, as thou know'st, unjustly must be spilt.

Rat. Make hast, the hour of death is now expired.

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Riv. Come, *Gray*; come, *Vaughan*; let us all embrace.
 Farewel, until we meet again in heav'n, [They embrace, Exit.]

S C E N E V,

The Tower.

Buckingham, Stanley, Hastings, Bishop of Ely, Catesby, Lovel, with others, at a table.

Hast. NOW, noble Peers, the cause why we are met,

Is to determine of the coronation.

In God's name speak, when is the royal day?

Buck. Are all things ready for that royal time?

Stanl. They are, and want but nomination.

Ely. To-morrow then I judge a happy day.

Buck. Who knows the Lord Protector's mind herein?

Who is most inward with the noble Duke?

Ely. Your Grace, we think, should soonest know his mind.

Buck. We know each other's faces; for our hearts, He knows no more of mine, than I of yours; Nor I of his, my Lord, than you of mine.
 —Lord *Hastings*, you and he are near in love.

Hast. I thank his Grace, I know he loves me well; But for his purpose in the coronation, I have not sounded him, nor he deliver'd His gracious pleasure any way therein; But you, my noble Lord, may name the time, And in the Duke's behalf I'll give my voice, Which, I presume, he'll take in gentle part,

Enter Gloucester,

Ely. In happy time here comes the Duke himself.

Glo.

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Glo. My noble Lords and Cousins all, good morrow;

I have been long a sleeper; but, I trust, my absence doth neglect no great design, which by my presence might have been concluded.

Buck. * Had not you come upon your cue, my Lord, William Lord Hastings had pronounced your part; mean, your voice for crowning of the King.

Glo. Than my Lord Hastings no man might be bolder.

His Lordship knows me well, and loves me well.

My Lord of Ely, when I was last in *Holbourn*, I saw good strawberries in your garden there; do beseech you, send for some of them.

Ely. Marry, and will, my Lord, with all my heart. [Exit Ely.]

Glo. Cousin of *Buckingham*, a word with you.

Catesby hath sounded Hastings in our business, and finds the testy gentleman so hot, that he will lose his head, ere give Consent to his Master's Son, as worshipfully he terms it, shall lose the Royalty of *England's* Throne.

Buck. Withdraw yourself a while, I'll go with you. [Exe. Glo. and Buck.]

Stanl. We have not yet set down this day of Triumph. To-morrow, in my judgment, is too sudden; or I myself am not so well provided, as else I would be, were the day prolong'd.

Re-enter Bishop of Ely.

Ely. Where is my Lord the Duke of Gloucester? have sent for these strawberries.

* Had you not come upon your cue.] This expression is borrowed from the theatre. The cue, queue, or tail of a speech, consists of the last words, which

are the token for an entrance or answer. To come on the cue, therefore, is to come at the proper time.

298 KING RICHARD III.

Hast. His Grace looks chearfully and smooth this morning ;

There's some conceit, or other, likes him well,
When that he bids good morrow with such spirit.
I think, there's ne'er a man in Christendom
Can lesser hide his love, or hate, than he,
For by his face strait shall you know his heart.

Stanl. What of his heart perceive you in his face,
By any ⁵ likelihood he shew'd to day ?

Hast. Marry, that with no man here he is offended:
For were he, he had shewn it in his looks.

Re-enter Gloucester and Buckingham.

Glo. I pray you all, tell me what they deserve,
That do conspire my death with devilish plots
Of damned Witchcraft ; and that have prevail'd
Upon my body with their hellish Charms.

Hast. The tender love I bear your Grace, my Lord,
Makes me most forward in this Princely presence,
To doom th'offenders. Whosoe'er they be,
I say, my Lord, they have deserved death.

Glo. Then be your eyes the witness of their evil.
Look, how I am bewitch'd ; behold, mine arm
Is, like a blasted Sapling, wither'd up ;
And this is *Edward's* wife, that monstrous witch,
Consorted with that harlot, strumpet *Shore*,
That by their witchcraft thus have marked me.

Hast. If they have done this deed, my noble Lord—

Glo. If?—thou Protector of this damned strumpet,
Talk'st thou to me of *ifs*?—thou art a traitor.

—Off with his head. Now, by *St. Paul* I swear,
I will not dine until I see the same ;

⁶ *Lovel*, and *Catcliff*, look, that it be done :

The rest, that love me, rise and follow me. [*Exeunt.*
Manent

⁵ *Likelihood.*] Semblance ; appearance.

⁶ In former copies :
Lovel and Ratcliff, lest that it
be

KING RICHARD III. 299

Manent Lovel and Catesby, with the Lord Hastings.

Hast. Woe, woe, for *England*, not a whit for me!
For I, too fond, might have prevented this.

Stanley did dream, the boar did rase our helms;
But I did scorn it, and disdain to fly.

Three times to day my foot-cloth horse did stumble,
And started when he look'd upon the *Tower*;
As loth to bear me to the slaughter-house.

—O, now I need the priest that spake to me.

—I now repent, I told the Pursuivant,
As too triumphing, how mine enemies
To day at *Pomfret* bloodily were butcher'd,
And I myself secure in grace and favour.

Oh, *Marg'ret*, *Marg'ret*, now thy heavy Curse
Is lighted on poor *Hastings*' wretched head.

Cates. Come, come, dispatch. The Duke would be
at dinner,

Make a short shrift; he longs to see your head.

Hast. O momentary grace of mortal men,
Which we more hunt for than the Grace of God!
'Who builds his hope in air of your fair looks,
Lives like a drunken sailor on a mast,
Ready with every Nod to tumble down
Into the fatal bowels of the deep.

Lov. Come, come, dispatch; 'tis bootless to ex-
claim.

done.] The Scene is here in
the *Tower*: and Lord *Hastings*
was cut off on that very day,
when *Rivers*, *Gray* and *Vaughan*
suffered at *Pomfret*. How then
could *Ratcliff* be both in *York-*
shire and the *Tower*? In the
scene preceding this, we find
him conducting those Gentlemen
to the Block. In the old *Quarto*

to, we find it *Exeunt*: *Manet*
Catesby with *Hastings*. And in
the next Scene, before the *Tower-*
Walls, we find *Lovel* and *Cates-*
by come back from the Execu-
tion, bringing the Head of *Hast-*
ings. THEOBALD.

⁷ So *Horace*,
Nescius auræ fallacis.

Hast.

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Hast. Oh, bloody *Richard!* miserable *England!*
 I prophesy the fearful'st time to thee,
 That ever wretched Age hath look'd upon.
 Come, lead me to the block, bear him my head;
 They smile at me, who shortly shall be dead. [*Exit.*]

SCENE VI.

Changes to the Tower-walls.

*Enter Gloucester and Buckingham in rusty armour,
 marvellous ill-favour'd.*

Glo. COME, Cousin, canst thou quake and change
 thy colour,

Murder thy breath in middle of a word,
 And then again begin, and stop again,
 As if thou wert distraught, and mad with terror?

Buck. Tut, I can counterfeit the deep Tragedian,
 Speak, and look back, and pry on every side,
 Tremble and start at wagging of a straw,
 Intending deep suspicion: ghastly looks
 Are at my service, like enforced smiles;
 And both are ready in their offices,
 At any time to grace my stratagems.

Glo. Here comes the Mayor.

Buck. Let me alone to entertain him.
 Lord Mayor,——

Enter Lord Mayor, attended.

Glo. Look to the draw-bridge there.

Buck. Hark, a drum!

Glo. *Catesby*, o'erlook the walls.

Buck. Lord Mayor, the reason we have sent——

Glo. Look back, defend thee, here are enemies.

Buck. God and our innocence defend and guard us!

Exit

Enter Lovel and Catesby with Hastings's head.

Glo. Be patient, they are friends; *Catesby* and *Lovel*.

Lov. Here is the head of that ignoble traitor,
The dangerous and unsuspected *Hastings*.

Glo. So dear I lov'd the man, that I must weep;
I took him for the plainest, harmless creature,
That breath'd upon the earth a christian,
Made him my book, wherein my soul recorded
The history of all her secret thoughts;
So smooth he daub'd his vice with shew of virtue,
That, his apparent open guilt omitted,
I mean his conversation with *Shore's* wife,
He liv'd from all attainder of Suspect.

Buck. Well, well, he was the covert'st shelter'd
traitor——

Would you imagine, or almost believe,
Were't not, that by great preservation
We live to tell it, that the subtle traitor
This day had plotted, in the Council-house,
To murder me and my good Lord of *Glo'ster*?

Mayor. What?——Had he so?

Glo. What! think you, we are *Turks* or *Infidels*?
Or that we would, against the form of law,
Proceed thus rashly to the villain's death,
But that the extreme peril of the case,
The peace of *England*, and our person's safety,
Enforc'd us to this execution?

Mayor. Now, fair befall you! he deserv'd his death;
And your good Graces both have well proceeded,
To warn false traitors from the like attempts.
I never look'd for better at his hands,
After he once fell in with mistress *Shore*.

Buck. Yet had not we determin'd he should die,
Until your Lordship came to see his end,
Which now the loving haste of these our friends,
Something against our meaning, hath prevented;

Be-

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Because, my Lord, we would have had you heard
The traitor speak, and tim'rously confess
The manner and the purpose of his treasons,
That you might well have signify'd the same
Unto the Citizens, who, haply, may
Misconstrue us in him, and wail his death.

Mayor. But, my good Lord, your Grace's word
shall serve,

As well as I had seen and heard him speak;
And do not doubt, right-noble Princes both,
But I'll acquaint our duteous citizens,
With all your just proceedings in this case.

Glo. And to that end we wish'd your Lordship here,
T'avoid the censures of the carping world.

Buck. But since you come too late of our intent,
Yet witness, what, you hear, we did intend.
And so, my good Lord Mayor, we bid farewell.

[*Exit Mayor.*]

Glo. Go after, after, Cousin *Buckingham*.
The Mayor towards *Guild-Hall* hies him in all post,
There, at your meetest vantage of the time,
Infer the bastardy of *Edward's* children.
Tell them, how *Edward* put to death a Citizen,
Only for saying, he would make his son
Heir to the Crown; meaning, indeed, his house,
Which by the sign thereof was termed so.
Moreover, urge his hateful luxury,
And bestial appetite in change of lust,
Which stretch'd unto their servants, daughters, wives,
Ev'n where his ranging eye or savage heart
Without controul, lusted to make a prey.
Nay, for a need, thus far come near my person;
Tell them, when that my Mother went with child
Of that insatiate *Edward*, noble *York*
My princely father then had wars in *France*,
And, by just computation of the time,
Found that the Issue was not his begot,
Which well appeared in his lineaments,

Being

KING RICHARD III. 303

g nothing like the noble Duke, my father.
touch this sparingly, as 'twere far off,
use, my Lord, you know, my mother lives.
uck. Doubt not, my Lord. I'll play the orator
f the golden fee, for which I plead,
e for myself; and so, my Lord, adieu.

b. If you thrive well, bring them to *Baynard's*
Castle,

ere you shall find me well accompanied
h reverend fathers and well-learned bishops.
uck. I go, and towards three or four o'clock
k for the news that the *Guild-Hall* affords.

[Exit Buck]

lo. Go, *Lovel*, with all speed to Doctor *Shaw*.
thou to Friar *Peuker*; bid them both
t me within this Hour at *Baynard's* Castle.

[Exeunt Lov. and Catef. severally]

t will I go to take some privy order
draw the brats of *Clarence* out of sight;
l to give order, that no sort of person
re, any time, recourse unto the Princes. [Exit]

Enter a Scrivener.

rio. Here is th' Indictment of the good Lord
Hastings.

ich in a set hand fairly is ingross'd;
it it may be to day read o'er in *Pauls*.
l, mark, how well the sequel hangs together,
ven hours I've spent to write it over,
yesternight by *Catesby* was it sent me;
precedent was full as long a doing.
I yet within these five hours *Hastings* liv'd
ainted, unexamin'd, free at liberty.
e's a good world the while.—Who is so gross,
it cannot see this palpable device?
who so bold, but says, he sees it not?

Bad

304 KING RICHARD III.

Bad is the world, and all will come to nought,
When such ill dealings must be ⁸ seen in thought. [*Exit.*]

S C E N E VII.

Changes to Baynard's Castle.

Enter Gloucester and Buckingham, at several doors.

Glo. **H**OW now, how now, what say the citizens?
Buck. Now by the holy Mother of our Lord,

The citizens are mum, say not a word.

Glo. Touch'd you the bastardy of *Edward's* children?

Buck. I did, with his Contract with lady *Lacy*,
And his Contract by Deputy in *France*;
Th' unsatiate greediness of his desires,
And his enforcement of the city-wives;
His tyranny for trifles; his own bastardy,
As being got, your father then in *France*,
And his resemblance, being not like the Duke.
Withal, I did infer your lineaments,
Being the right idea of your father,
Both in your form and nobleness of mind;
Laid open all your victories in *Scotland*,
Your discipline in war, wisdom in peace,
Your bounty, virtue, fair humility,
Indeed, left nothing fitting for the purpose
Untouch'd, or slightly handled in discourse.
And when my Oratory grew tow'rd end,
I bid them, that did love their Country's Good,
Cry, God save *Richard*, *England's* royal King.

Glo. And did they so?

Buck. No; so God help me, they spake not a word;

⁸ *Seen in thought.*] That is, seen in silence, without notice or detection.

But

KING RICHARD III. 305

ke dumb statues, or unbreathing stones,
 each on other, and look'd deadly pale;
 when I saw, I reprehended them,
 ask'd the May'r, what meant this wilful silence?
 answer was, the People were not us'd
 spoke to, except by the Recorder.
 he was urg'd to tell my Tale again:
With the Duke, thus hath the Duke infer'd,
 nothing spoke in warrant from himself.
 he had done, some followers of mine own,
 ever end o'th'Hall, hurl'd up their caps,
 some ten voices cry'd, God save kind *Richard*!
 thus I took the vantage of those few.
O, gentle citizens and friends, quoth I,
General applause and chearful shout
your wisdom, and your love to Richard.
 ven here brake off, and came away.
 What tongueless blocks were they, would they
 not speak?
 not the Mayor then and his brethren come?
 k. The Mayor is here at hand; 'intend some
 fear;
 : you spoke with, but by mighty suit;
 ook you get a prayer-book in your hand,
 tand between two Churchmen, good my Lord,
 that ground I'll build a holy descent;
 e not easily won to our requests,
 he maid's part, still answer, *nay*, and take it.
 I go: and if you plead as well for them,
 can say, *nay* to thee, for myself;
 ubt, we'll bring it to a happy issue. [*Exit Glo.*
 k. Go, go up to the leads, the Lord Mayor
 knocks.

end some fear.] Perhaps — If you plead as well for
though intend will stand them
case of giving attention. As I must say nay to them for
I can say, nay to thee.] I myself.

L. V.

X

Enter

306 KING RICHARD III.

Enter Lord Mayor, and Citizens.

—Welcome, my Lord. I dance attendance here;
I think, the Duke will not be spoke withal.

Enter Catesby.

Buck. *Catesby*, what says your Lord to my request?

Catesby. He doth intreat your Grace, my noble Lord,
To visit him to morrow, or next day.
He is within, with two right-reverend fathers,
Divinely bent to meditation,
And in no worldly suits would he be mov'd,
To draw him from his holy exercise.

Buck. Return, good *Catesby*, to the gracious Duke;
Tell him, myself, the Mayor and Aldermen,
In deep designs, in matter of great moment,
No less importing than our gen'ral Good,
Are come to have some conference with his Grace.

Catesby. I'll signify so much unto him straight. [*Exit.*]

Buck. Ah, ah! my Lord, this Prince is not an
Edward;

He is not lolling on a lewd love-bed,
But on his knees at meditation;
Not dallying with a brace of Curtezans,
But meditating with two deep Divines;
Not sleeping, ' to engross his idle body,
But praying, to enrich his watchful soul.
Happy were *England*, would this virtuous Prince
Take on his Grace the Sov'reignty thereof;
But, sure, I fear, we shall not win him to it.

Mayor. Marry, God shield, his Grace should say
us, nay!

Buck. I fear, he will; here *Catesby* comes again.

¹ *To engross.*] To fatten; to pamper.

Enter

Enter Catesby.

by, what says his Grace?

tes. He wonders to what end you have assembled troops of Citizens to come to him, Grace not being warn'd thereof before.

ears, my Lord, you mean no good to him.

ek. Sorry I am, my noble Cousin should

st me, that I mean no good to him;

av'n, we come to him in perfect love,

so once more return, and tell his Grace.

[Exit Catesby.]

holy and devout religious men

t their beads, 'tis hard to draw them thence,

et is zealous Contemplation.

Enter Gloucester above, between two Bishops.

Catesby returns.

yor. See, where his Grace stands 'tween two Clergymen.

ek. Two props of Virtue, for a Christian Prince,

ay him from the fall of Vanity;

ee, a book of prayer in his hand,

ornaments to know a holy man.

nous *Plantagenet*! most gracious Prince,

favourable ear to our requests;

ardon us the interruption

y devotion and right-christian zeal.

. My Lord, there needs no such apology;

eseech your Grace to pardon me,

earnest in the service of my God,

'd the visitation of my friends.

leaving this, what is your Grace's pleasure?

ek. Ev'n that, I hope, which pleaseth God above,

all good men of this ungovern'd Isle.

I do suspect, I have done some offence,

seem disgracious in the City's eye;

308 KING RICHARD III.

And that you come to reprehend my ignorance.

Buck. You have, my Lord; would it might please your Grace,

On our entreaties, to amend your fault.

Glo. Else wherefore breathe I in a Christian Land?

Buck. Know then, it is your fault that you resign
The supream Seat, the Throne majestical,
The scepter'd Office of your Ancestors,
Your State of fortune, and your due of Birth,
The lineal Glory of your royal House,
To the corruption of a blemish'd Stock,
While in the mildness of your sleepy thoughts,
Which here we waken to our Country's Good,
The noble Isle doth want her proper limbs;
Her face defac'd with scars of Infamy,
Her royal Stock graft with ignoble plants,
* And almost shoulder'd in the swallowing gulph
Of dark forgetfulness, and deep oblivion;
Which to re-cure, we heartily solicit
Your gracious self to take on you the Charge
And kingly Government of this your Land,
Not as Protector, Steward, Substitute,
Or lowly Factor for another's gain,
But as successively, from blood to blood,
Your Right of Birth, your Empery, your own.
For this, consoorted with the Citizens,
Your very worshipful and loving friends,
And by their vehement instigation,
In this just suit come I to move your Grace.

Glo. I cannot tell, if to depart in silence,

* And almost shoulder'd in the
swallowing gulph

Of dark forgetfulness.] What
it is to be shoulder'd in a gulph,
Hannier is the only Editor who
seems not to have known: for
the rest let it pass without obser-
vation. He reads,

Almost shoulder'd into th' swal-
lowing gulph.

I believe we should read,
And almost smoulder'd in the
swallowing gulph.
That is, almost smother'd, cover-
ed and lost.

bitterly to speak in your reproof,
 It fitteth my degree, or your condition.
 I will not to answer, you might, haply, think,
 Tongue-ty'd Ambition, not replying, yielded
 To bear the golden yoke of Sov'reignty,
 Which fondly you would here impose on me.
 To reprove you for this suit of yours,
 Season'd with your faithful love to me,
 When, on the other side, I check'd my friends.
 Therefore to speak, and to avoid the first,
 And then, in speaking, not incur the last,
 Confinatively thus I answer you.
 Your love deserves my thanks; but my desert,
 Unmeritable, shuns your high request.
 First, if all obstacles were cut away,
 And that my path were even to the Crown,
 As the ripe revenue and due of birth;
 Yet so much is my poverty of spirit,
 So mighty and so many my defects,
 That I would rather hide me from my Greatness,
 Being a Bark to brook no mighty Sea,
 Than in my Greatness covet to be hid,
 And in the vapour of my Glory smother'd.
 But, God be thank'd, there is no need of me,
 And much I need to help you, were there Need:
 The royal tree hath left us royal fruit,
 Which, mellow'd by the stealing hours of time,
 Will well become the seat of Majesty;
 And make us, doubtless, happy by his Reign.
 On him I lay what you would lay on me,
 The Right and Fortune of his happy stars;
 Which, God defend, that I should wring from him!
Buck. My Lord, this argues conscience in your
 Grace.
 But the respects thereof are nice and trivial,
 All circumstances well considered.

And much I need to help you.] requisite to give you help, if
 and I want much of the ability help were needed.

310 KING RICHARD III.

You say, that *Edward* is your brother's son;
 So say we too, but not by *Edward's* wife,
 For first was he contract to lady *Lucy*,
 Your mother lives a witness to that Vow;
 And afterward by Substitute betroth'd
 To *Bona*, sister to the King of *France*,
 These both put off, a poor Petitioner,
 A care-craz'd mother of a many children,
 A beauty-waining, and distressed Widow,
 Ev'n in the afternoon of her best days,
 Made prize and purchase of his wanton eye;
 Seduc'd the pitch and height of all his thoughts
 To base declension and loath'd bigamy.
 By her, in his unlawful bed, he got
 This *Edward*, whom our manners call the Prince,
 More bitterly could I expostulate,
 Save that, for reverence of some alive,
 I give a sparing limit to my tongue.
 Then, good my Lord, take to your royal self
 This proffer'd benefit of Dignity,
 If not to bless Us and the Land withal,
 Yet to draw forth your noble Ancestry
 From the corruption of abusing time,
 Unto a lineal, true-derived course.

Mayer. Do, good my Lord, your Citizens in
 you.

Buck. Refuse not, mighty Lord, this proffer'd
Cates. O make them joyful, grant their lawful si

Glo. Alas, why would you heap these cares on
 I am unfit for State and Majesty.

I do beseech you, take it not amiss;
 I cannot, nor I will not yield to you.

Buck. If you refuse it, as, in love and zeal,
 Loth to depose the Child, your brother's son,
 (As well we know your tenderness of heart,
 And gentle, kind, effeminate remorse,
 Which we have noted in you to your kindred,

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And equally, indeed, to all estates)
 Yet know, whether you accept our suit or no,
 Your brother's son shall never reign our King;
 But we will plant some other in the Throne,
 To the disgrace and downfall of your House;
 And in this resolution here we leave you.

—Come, Citizens, we will intreat no more. [*Exeunt.*]

Cates. Call them again, sweet Prince, accept their
 suit;

If you deny them, all the Land will rue it.

Glo. Will you inforce me to a world of cares?

—Call them again; I am not made of stone,
 But penetrable to your kind entreaties;
 Albeit against my conscience and my soul.

Exit Catesby. Re-enter Buckingham, and the rest.

—Cousin of *Buckingham*, and sage, grave men,
 Since you will buckle fortune on my back
 To bear her burden, whether I will or no,
 I must have patience to endure the load.
 But if black Scandal, or foul-fac'd Reproach,
 Attend the sequel of your imposition,
 Your meer enforcement shall acquittance me
 From all the impure blots and stains thereof,
 For God doth know, and you may partly see,
 How far I am from the desire of this.

Mayer. God bless your Grace; we see it, and will
 say it,

Glo. In saying so, you shall but say the truth.

Buck. Then I salute you with this royal Title,
 Long live King *Richard*, *England's* worthy King!

All. Amen.

Buck. To-morrow may it please you to be crown'd?

Glo. Ev'n when you please, for you will have it so.

Buck. To-morrow then we will attend your Grace,
 And so most joyfully we take our leave.

312 KING RICHARD III.

Glo. [*To the Clergymen.*] Come let us to our holy Work again.

—Farewel, my Cousin; farewel, gentle friends. ⁴
[*Exeunt.*]

ACT IV. SCENE I.

Before the TOWER.

Enter the Queen, Dutchess of York, and Marquis of Dorset, at one Door; Anne, Dutchess of Gloucester, leading Lady Margaret Plantagenet, Clarence's young Daughter, at the other.

DUTCHESS.

WHO meets us here? — my niece *Plantagenet*,
Led in the hand of her kind Aunt of *Glo'ster*?
Now, for my life she's wandring to the *Tower*,
On pure heart's love, to greet the tender Princes.
Daughter, well met.

Anne. God give your Graces both
A happy and a joyful time of day.

Queen. Sister, well met; whither away so fast?

Anne. No further than the *Tower*; and, as I guess,

⁴ To this act should, perhaps, be added the next scene, so will the coronation pass between the acts; and there will not only be a proper interval of action, but the Conclusion will be more forcible.

⁵ *Who meets us here? my Niece Plantagenet,*

Led in the hand of her kind Aunt of Glo'ster?] Here is manifest intimation, that the

Dutchess of Glo'ster leads in somebody in her hand; but there is no direction mark'd in any of the Copies, from which we can learn who it is. I have ventur'd to guess, it must be *Clarence's* young Daughter. The old *Dutchess of York* calls her *Niece*, i. e. Grand daughter; as Grand children are frequently called *Nephews*.
THEOBALD.

Upon

KING RICHARD III. 313

pon the like devotion as yourselves,
o gratulate the gentle Princes there.

Queen. Kind sister, thanks; we'll enter all together.

Enter the Lieutenant.

nd in good time here the Lieutenant comes.

-Master Lieutenant, pray you, by your leave,
ow doth the Prince, and my young son of *York*?

Lieu. Right well.—Dear Madam; by your patience
may not suffer you to visit them;
he King hath strictly charg'd the contrary.

Queen. The King? who's that?

Lieu. I mean, the Lord Protector.

Queen. The Lord protect him from that kingly title!
hath he set bounds between their love and me?
am their mother, who shall bar me from them?

Dutch. I am their father's mother. I will see them.

Anne. Their aunt I am in law, in love their mother,
hen bring me to their sights, I'll bear thy blame,
nd take thy office from thee on my peril.

Lieu. No, madam, no, * I may not leave it so.
m bound by oath, and therefore pardon me.

[*Exit Lieu.*]

Enter Stanley.

Stanl. Let me but meet you, Ladies, one hour hence,
nd I'll salute your Grace of *York* as mother
nd rev'rend looker on of two fair Queens.

-Come, Madam, you must strait to *Westminster*,
[*To the Dutchess of Gloucester,*
here to be crowned *Richard's* royal Queen.

Queen. Ah, cut my lace afunder,
hat my pent heart may have some scope to beat,
r else I swoon with this dead killing news!

Anne. Despightful tidings, O unpleasing news!

* *I must not leave it so.*] That which you offer to take on you
I may not so resign my office, at your peril.

Dor.

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Dor. Be of good chear. Mother how fares your Grace!

Queen. O *Dorset*, speak not to me, get thee hence,
Death and destruction dog thee at thy heels,
Thy mother's name is ominous to children.
If thou wilt outstrip death, go cross the seas;
And live with *Richmond*, from the reach of hell.
Go, hie thee, hie thee from this slaughter-house,
Lest thou increas the number of the dead;
And make me die the thrall of *Marg'ret's* curse;
Nor mother, wife, nor *England's* counted Queen.

Stanl. Full of wise care is this your counsel, Ma-
dam.

—Take all the swift advantage of the time;
You shall have letters from me to my son
In your behalf, to meet you on the way:
Be not ta'en tardy by unwise delay.

Dutch. O ill-dispersing wind of misery!—
O my accursed womb, the bed of death,
A cockatrice hast thou hatch'd to the world,
Whose unavoided eye is murderous.

Stank. Come, Madam, come, I in all haste was sent.

Anne. And I with all unwillingness will go.

O, 'would to God, that the inclusive verge
Of golden metal, that must round my brow,
Were red-hot steel, to sear me to the brain!
Anointed let me be with deadly venom,
And die, ere men can say, *God save the Queen!*

Queen. Go, go, poor soul, I envy not thy glory;
To feed my humour, wish thyself no harm.

Anne. No! why?—When he, that is my hus-
band now,

Came to me, as I follow'd *Henry's* coarse,
When scarce the blood was well wash'd from his hands,
Which issu'd from my other angel husband,
And that dear Saint, which then I weeping follow'd,
O when, I say, I look'd on *Richard's* face,
This was my wish; “ Be thou, quoth I, accur'd,
“ For

KING RICHARD III. 315

or making me so young, so old a widow!
 And when thou wed'st, let sorrow haunt thy bed;
 And be thy wife, if any be so mad,
 More miserable by the life of thee,
 Than thou hast made me by my dear Lord's death!
 Ere I can repeat this curse again,
 In so small a time, my woman's heart
 Sly grew captive to his honey words,
 Prov'd the subject of mine own soul's curse,
 Which ever since hath held mine eyes from rest.
 Never yet one hour in his bed

I enjoy the golden dew of sleep,
 : With his tim'rous dreams was still awak'd,
 He, he hates me for my father *Warwick*;
 Will, no doubt, shortly be rid of me.

Queen. Poor heart, adieu, I pity thy complaining.

Queen. No more than with my soul I mourn for
 yours.

King. Farewel, thou woful welcomer of Glory!

Queen. Adieu, poor soul, that tak'st thy leave of it!

King. Go thou to *Richmond*, and good fortune
 guide thee! [To Dorset.

Thou to *Richard*, and good Angels tend thee!

[To Anne.

Thou to Sanctuary, good thoughts possess thee!

[To the Queen.

My grave, where peace and rest lie with me!

Forty odd years of sorrow have I seen,

Each hour's joy wreck'd with a week of teen.

Queen. Stay; yet look back, with me, unto the
Tower.

you ancient stones, those tender babes,

Whom envy hath immur'd within your walls!

Whose cradle for such little pretty ones!

[*King with his tim'rous dreams.*] turbed by terrible dreams: this
 recorded by *Polydore Virgil*, is therefore no fiction.
Richard was frequently dis-

Rude

316 KING RICHARD III.

* Rude ragged nurse! old fullen play fellow,
For tender Princes; use my babies well!
So foolish sorrow bids your stones farewell. [*Exeunt.* †]

S C E N E II.

Changes to the Court.

Flourish of Trumpets. Enter Gloucester as King, Buckingham, Catesby.

K. Rich. **S**TAND all apart—Cousin of *Buckingham*,—
Buck. My gracious Sovereign!

K. Rich. Give me thy hand. Thus high, by thy advice,
And thy assistance, is King *Richard* seated.
But shall we wear these glories for a day?
Or shall they last, and we rejoice in them?

Buck. Still live they, and for ever let them last!

K. Rich. 'Ah, *Buckingham*, now do I play the touch,
To try if thou be current gold, indeed.
Young *Edward* lives—think now, what I would speak.

Buck. Say on, my loving Lord.

K. Rich. Why, *Buckingham*, I say, I would be King.

Buck. Why, so you are, my thrice-renowned Liege.

K. Rich. Ha! am I King? 'tis so—but *Edward*
lives——

Buck. True, noble Prince.

K. Rich. O bitter consequence!

That *Edward* still should live—true, noble Prince?—
Cousin, thou wert not wont to be so dull.

—Shall I be plain? I wish the bastards dead;

* To call the *Tower nurse*
and *playfellow* is very harsh: per-
haps part of this speech is ad-
dressed to the *Tower*, and part to
the Lieutenant.

† Hither the third act should
be extended, and here it very pro-
perly ends with a pause of action.

‡ *Ah! Buckingham; now do*
I play the Touch.] The
technical term is requisite here.

The poet wrote,

—now do I ply the touch.

i. e. apply the touchstone: for
that is meant by what he calls
touch. So, again, in *Timon of*
Athens, speaking of Gold, he
says;

—O, thou touch of hearts!

i. e. thou trial, touchstone.

WARBURTON.

And

KING RICHARD III. 317

and I would have it suddenly perform'd.
What say'st thou now? speak suddenly, be brief.

Buck. Your Grace may do your pleasure.

K. Rich. Tut, tut, thou art all ice, thy kindness
freezes:

ay, have I thy consent that they shall die?

Buck. Give me some breath, some little pause, dear
Lord,

before I positively speak in this;
will resolve your Grace immediately. [*Exit Buck.*

Cates. The King is angry; see, he gnaws his lip.

K. Rich. I will converse with iron-witted fools,
And unrespective boys; none are for me,
That look into me with consid'rate eyes.
High-reaching *Buckingham* grows circumspect.
Boy,——

Page. My Lord.

K. Rich. Know'st thou not any, whom corrupting gold
Would tempt unto a * close exploit of death?

Page. I know a discontented Gentleman,
Whose humble means match not his haughty spirit;
Gold were as good as twenty orators,
And will, no doubt, tempt him to any thing.

K. Rich. What is his name?

Page. His name, my Lord, is *Tirrel*.

K. Rich. I partly know the man; go call him hi-
ther. [*Exit Boy.*

—The deep-revolving witty *Buckingham*
No more shall be the neighbour to my counsels.
Hath he so long held out with me untir'd,
And stops he now for breath?——well, be it so.

Enter Stanley.

How now, Lord *Stanley*, what's the news?

Stanl. My Lord,
The Marquis *Dorset*, as I hear, is fled
To *Richmond*, in the parts where he abides.

* *Close exploit*, is secret act.

K. Rich.

318 KING RICHARD III.

K. Rich. Come hither, *Catesby*; rumour is abroad,
That *Anne* my wife is sick, and like to die.
I will take order for her keeping close.
Inquire me out some mean-born gentleman,
Whom I will marry strait to *Clarence*' daughter.—
The boy is foolish, and I fear not him.—
Look, how thou dream'st — I say again, give out,
That *Anne* my Queen is sick, and like to die.
About it; for it stands me much upon
To stop all hopes, whose growth may damage me.

[*Exit Catesby.*]

I must be married to my brother's daughter;
Or else my kingdom stands on brittle glass.
Murder her brothers, and then marry her!
Uncertain way of gain! but I am in
So far in blood, that sin will pluck on sin.

Enter Tirrel.

Tear-falling pity dwells not in this eye.
Is thy name *Tirrel*?

Tir. *James Tirrel*, and your most obedient subject.

K. Rich. Art thou, indeed? [*He takes him aside.*]

Tir. Prove me, my gracious Lord. [*He kneels.*]

K. Rich. Dar'st thou resolve to kill a friend of mine?

Tir. Please you, I'd rather kill two enemies.

K. Rich. Why, then thou hast it; two deep enemies,
Foes to my rest, and my sweet sleep's disturbers,
Are they, that I would have thee deal upon;
Tirrel, I mean those bastards in the Tower.

Tir. Let me have open means to come to them,
And soon I'll rid you from the fear of them.

K. Rich. Thou sing'st sweet musick. Hark, come
hither, *Tirrel* —

Go, by this token — rise, and lend thine ear —

[*Whispers.*]

There is no more but so — say, it is done,

And

And I will love thee and prefer thee for it.

Tir. I will dispatch it strait. [Exit.

Re-enter Buckingham.

Buck. My Lord, I have consider'd in my mind
That late demand, that you did sound me in.

K. Rich. Well, let that rest. *Dorset* is fled to *Richmond*.

Buck. I hear the news, my Lord.

K. Rich. *Stanley*, he is your wife's son. Well, look to it.

Buck. My Lord, I claim the gift, my due by promise,

For which your honour, and your faith is pawn'd;
Th'Earldom of *Hereford*, and the moveables,
Which you have promised I shall possess.

K. Rich. *Stanley*, look to your wife; if she convey
Letters to *Richmond*, you shall answer it.

Buck. What says your Highness to my just request?

K. Rich. I do remember me——*Henry* the sixth
Did prophesy, that *Richmond* should be King,
When *Richmond* was a little peevish boy.

* A King, perhaps——

Buck. My Lord.

K. Rich. How chance, the Prophet could not at
that time

Have told me, I being by, that I should kill him?

Buck. My Lord, your promise for the Earldom——

K. Rich. *Richmond*? when I was last at *Exeter*,
The Mayor in curtesy shewed me the castle,
And call'd it *Rouge-mont*, at which name I started,
Because a bard of *Ireland* told me once,

* A King, perhaps——] From enough to replace them. POPE.
hence to the words, *Thou troublest me, I am not in the vein*—
have been left out ever since the first editions, but I like them well
The allusions to the plays of *Henry VI.* are no weak proofs of the authenticity of these disputed pieces.

320 KING RICHARD III.

I should not live long after I saw *Richmond*.

Buck. My Lord, ———

K. Rich. Ay, what's o'clock?

Buck. I am thus bold to put your Grace in mind
Of what you promis'd me.

K. Rich. But what's a clock?

Buck. Upon the stroke of ten.

K. Rich. Well, let it strike.

Buck. Why, let it strike?

K. Rich. * Because, that, like a Jack, thou keep'st
the stroke

Betwixt thy begging and my meditation.

I am not in the giving vein to day.

Buck. Why, then resolve me whether you will, or no.

K. Rich. Thou troublest me, I am not in the vein,
[*Exit.*]

Buck. Is it ev'n so? repays he my deep service,
With such contempt? made I him King for this?
O, let me think on *Hastings*, and be gone
To *Brecknock*, while my fearful head is on. [*Exit.*]

S C E N E III.

Enter Tirrel.

Tir. The tyrannous and bloody act is done;
The most arch deed of piteous massacre,
That ever yet this land was guilty of!
Dighton and *Forrest*, whom I did suborn
To do this piece of ruthless butchery,
Albeit they were flesh villains, bloody dogs,
Melting with tenderness and mild compassion,
Wept like two children, in their deaths' sad story.
O thus, (quoth *Dighton*) lay the gentle babes; —
Thus, thus, (quoth *Forrest*) girdling one another
Within their innocent alabaster arms.
Their lips were four red roses on a stalk,
And in their summer beauty kiss'd each other.

* This passage, though I do not believe it corrupted, I do not
understand.

KING RICHARD III. 321

book of prayers on their pillow lay,
 Which once, (quoth *Forrest*,) almost chang'd my mind;
 It, oh! the Devil——there the villain stopt,
 Then *Digbton* thus told on——we smother'd
 The most replenished sweet work of nature,
 That from the prime creation e'er she fram'd.——
 Hence both are gone with conscience and remorse;
 They could not speak, and so I left them both,
 To bear these tidings to the bloody King.

Enter King Richard.

And here he comes. All health, my sovereign Lord!

K. Rich. Kind *Tirrel*——am I happy in thy news?

Tir. If to have done the thing you gave in charge
 To get your happiness, be happy then?
 Or it is done.

K. Rich. But didst thou see them dead?

Tir. I did, my Lord.

K. Rich. And, buried gentle *Tirrel*?

Tir. The Chaplain of the *Tower* hath buried them,
 But where, to say the truth, I do not know.

K. Rich. Come to me, *Tirrel*, soon, soon after
 Supper,

Then thou shalt tell the process of their death.

I lean time, but think, how I may do thee good,

And be inheritor of thy desire.

Arewel, till then.

Tir. I humbly take my leave.

[*Exit.*

K. Rich. The son of *Clarence* have I pent up close;

His daughter meanly have I match'd in marriage;

The sons of *Edward* sleep in *Abraham's* bosom;

And *Anne* my wife hath bid this world good night.

Now, for I know the *Briton Richmond* aims

At young *Elizabeth*, my brother's daughter,

And by that knot looks proudly on the crown,

To her go I, a jolly thriving wooer.

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Y

Enter.

322 KING RICHARD III.

Enter Catesby.

Cates. My Lord,——

K. Rich. Good or bad news, that thou com'st in so bluntly?

Cates. Bad news, my Lord; *Morton* is fled to *Richmond*.

And *Buckingham*, back'd with the hardy *Welshmen*,
Is in the field, and still his power increaseth.

K. Rich. *Ely* with *Richmond* troubles me more near,
Than *Buckingham* and his rash-levied army.
Come, I have learn'd, that ⁹ fearful commenting
Is leaden servitor to dull delay;
Delay leads impotent and snail-pac'd beggary.
Then fiery expedition be my wing,
Jove's Mercury, and herald for a King.
Go, muster men; my Council is my shield,
We must be brief, when traitors brave the field. [*Exit.*]

S C E N E IV.

Enter Queen Margaret.

Q. Mar. So now Prosperity begins to mellow,
And drop into the rotten mouth of death,
Here in these confines sily have I lurk'd
'To watch the waining of mine enemies.
A ¹ dire induction am I witness to,
And will to *France*; hoping the consequence
Will prove as bitter, black and tragical,
Withdraw thee, wretched *Mar'garet*! who comes here?

Enter the Dutchess of York, and Queen.

Queen. Ah, my poor Princes! ah, my tender
babes;
My unblown flowers, new-appearing sweets!

⁹ —fearful commenting
Is leaden servitor.] Timorous thought and cautious disquisition are the dull attendants on delay.

¹ Dire induction.] Induction is preface, introduction, first part. It is so used by *Sackville* in our author's time.

KING RICHARD III. 323

yet your gentle souls fly in the air,
and be not fixt in doom perpetual,
over about me with your airy wings,
and hear your mother's lamentation.

Q. Mar. Hover about her; ² say, that right for
right

ath dimm'd your infant-morn to aged night.

Dutch. So many miseries have craz'd my voice,
that my woe-wearied tongue is still and mute,
Edward Plantagenet, why art thou dead!

Q. Mar. *Plantagenet* doth quit *Plantagenet*,
Edward for *Edward* pays a dying debt.

Queen. Wilt thou, O God, fly from such gentle
lambs;

and throw them in the intrails of the wolf?

Why didst thou sleep when such a deed was done?

Q. Mar. When holy *Henry* dy'd, and my sweet son,

Dutch. Dead life, blind sight, poor mortal living
ghost,

oe's scene, world's shame, grave's due, by life,
usurp'd,

ief abstract and record of tedious days,

est thy unrest on *England's* lawful earth,

lawfully made drunk with innocent blood.

Queen. Ah, that thou wouldst as soon afford a grave,
thou canst yield a melancholy seat;

then would I hide my bones, not rest them here.

Who hath any cause to mourn but we?

Q. Mar. If ancient sorrow be most reverent,

— say, that RIGHT for
RIGHT] It's plain *Shake-*
wrote *WRONG* for *WRONG*;
the players thought that a
le rhyme was better than all
son. *WARBURTON.*

It is so unlikely that words so
sub, and so proper, as *wrong*
wrong would have been either
morantly or officiously changed,
that I believe *right for right* is
!

the true though not the best
reading. This is one of these
conceits which our authour may
be suspected of loving better than
propriety. *Right for right* is
justice answering to the claims of
justice. So in this play,

— That forebode
Where should be branded, if that
right were right.

324 KING RICHARD III.

Give mine the benefit of ³ Signiory ;
 And let my griefs frown on the upper hand.
 If sorrow can admit society,
 Tell o'er your woes again by viewing mine.
 I had an *Edward* till a *Richard* kill'd him :
 I had a husband, till a *Richard* kill'd him :
 Thou had'st an *Edward*, till a *Richard* kill'd him :
 Thou had'st a *Richard*, till a *Richard* kill'd him.

Dutch. I had a *Richard* too, and thou did'st kill
 him ;

I had a *Rutland* too, thou help'st to kill him.

Q. Mar. Thou hadst a *Clarence* too, and *Richard*
 kill'd him.

From forth the kennel of thy womb hath crept
 A hell-hound, that doth hunt us all to death ;
 That dog, that had his teeth before his eyes,
 To worry lambs and lap their gentle blood ;
 That foul defacer of God's handy-work
 Thy womb let loose, to chace us to our graves.
 O upright, just, and true-disposing God,
 How do I thank thee, that this carnal cur
 Preys on the issue of his mother's body ;
 And makes her ⁴ *Pue-fellow* with others' moan !

Dutch. Oh, *Harry's* wife, triumph not in my woe,
 God witness with me, I have wept for thine.

Q. Mar. Bear with me, I am hungry for revenge,
 And now I cloy me with beholding it.

Thy *Edward* he is dead, that kill'd my *Edward*,
 Thy other *Edward* dead, to quit my *Edward*,
⁵ Young *York* he is but boot, because both they
 Match not the high perfection of my loss.
 Thy *Clarence* he is dead, that stabb'd my *Edward* ;

³ *Signiory* for *Seniority*.

⁴ *Pue-fellow* seems to be companion. We have now a new phrase, nearly equivalent, by which we say of persons in the

same difficulties, that they are in the same box.

⁵ *Young York he is but boot.* *Boot* is that which is thrown in to mend a purchase.

KING RICHARD III. 325

he beholders of this tragic play,
 adulterate *Hastings*, *Rivers*, *Vaughan*, *Gray*,
 ely smother'd in their dusky graves.
 'd yet lives, hell's black intelligencer,
 reserv'd their factor to buy souls,
 end them thither; but at hand, at hand,
 his piteous and unpitied end;
 gapes, hell burns, fiends roar, saints pray, for
 vengeance
 I his bond of life, dear God, I pray,
 I may live to say, the dog is dead!
en. Oh! thou didst prophesy, the time would
 come,
 I should wish for thee to help me curse
 bottl'd spider, that foul bunch-back'd toad.
Mar. I call'd thee then vain flourish of my
 fortune,
 d thee then poor shadow, painted Queen,
 representation of but what I was;
 flatt'ring index of a direful Page;
 eav'd on high, to be hurl'd down below:
 ther only mock'd with two fair babes;
 am of what thou wast; a garish flag,
 : the aim of ev'ry dang'rous shot;
 1 of dignity, a breath, a bubble;
 een in jest, only to fill the scene.
 e is thy husband now? where be thy brothers?
 e be thy children? wherein dost thou joy?
 fues and kneels, and says, God save the Queen
 e be the bending Peers, that flatter'd thee?
 e be the thronging troops that follow'd thee?
 ne all this, and see what now thou art;

' ADULTERATE *Hast-*
 —] I believe *Shake-*
 wrote.

ADULTERER *Hastings*,—
 WARBURTON.

' The flatt'ring index of a
 direful PAGEANT.] Without
 doubt *Shakspeare* wrote

—direful PAGE.

WARBURTON.

326 KING RICHARD III.

For happy wife, a most distressed widow;
 For joyful mother, one that wails the name;
 For one being su'd to, one that humbly sues;
 For Queen, a very caitiff crown'd with care;
 For one that scorn'd at me, now scorn'd of me;
 For one being fear'd of all, now fearing one;
 For one commanding all; obey'd of none.
 Thus hath the course of justice wheel'd about,
 And left thee but a very prey to time;
 Having no more but thought of what thou wert,
 To torture thee the more, being what thou art.
 Thou dost usurp my place, and dost thou not
 Usurp the just proportion of my sorrow?
 Now thy proud neck bears half my burden'd yoke,
 From which, even here I slip my wearied head,
 And leave the burden of it all on thee.
 Farewel, *York's* wife, and Queen of sad mischance,
 These *English* woes shall make me smile in *France*.

Queen. O thou well skill'd in curses! stay a while,
 And teach me how to curse mine enemies.

Q. Mar. Forbear to sleep the night, and fast the
 day,
 Compare dead happiness with living woe;
 Think, that thy babes were sweeter than they were,
 And he, that slew them, fouler than he is;
 Bett'ring thy loss makes the bad causer worse,
 Revolving this, will teach thee how to curse.

Queen. My words are dull, O! quicken them with
 thine.

Q. Mar. Thy woes will make them sharp, and
 pierce like mine. [Exit Margaret]

Dutch. Why should calamity be full of words?

Queen. * Windy attorneys to their client-woes,
 Airy succeders of intestate joys,

Poor

* In former editions this line
 was read thus:

*Windy-attorneys to your client's
 woes.*

The emendation is *Sir Thomas
 Hanmer's*.

* *Airy Succeders of intestine
 joys,* I cannot understand
 this

KING RICHARD III. 327

Poor breathing orators of miseries !
 Let them have scope, tho' what they do impart
 Help nothing else, yet they do ease the heart.

Dutch. If so, then be not tongue-ty'd ; go with
 me,

And in the breath of bitter words let's smother
 My damned son, that thy two sweet sons smother'd.

[*Drum, within.*

I hear his drum, be copious in exclams.

S C E N E V.

Enter King Richard, and his Train.

K. Rich. Who intercepts me in my expedition ?

Dutch. O, she, that might have intercepted thee
 By strangling thee in her accursed womb,
 From all the slaughters, wretch, that thou hast done.

Queen. Hid'st thou that forehead with a golden
 crown,

Where should be branded, if that right were right,
 The slaughter of the Prince that ow'd that crown,
 And the dire death of my poor sons and brothers ?

Tell me, thou villain-slave, where are my children ?

Dutch. Thou toad, thou toad, where is thy brother
 Clarence ?

And little *Ned Plantagenet*, his son ?

Queen. Where is kind *Hastings*, *Rivers*, *Vaughan*,
 Gray ?

K. Rich. A flourish, trumpets ! strike alarum,
 drums !

Let not the heavens hear these tell-tale women

this Reading. I have adopted
 another from the *Quarto* in 1597.

Silly Succeders of intestine

joys,
 i. e. Words, tun'd to Complaints,

succeed Joys that are dead ; and
 unbequeath'd to them, to whom
 they should properly descend.

THEOBALD.

328 KING RICHARD III.

Rail on the Lord's anointed. Strike, I say:

[*Flourish. Alarms.*]

—Either be patient, and intreat me fair,

Or with the clamorous report of war

Thus will I drown your exclamations.

Dutch. Art thou my son?

K. Rich. Ay, I thank God, my father, and yourself,

Dutch. Then patiently hear my impatience,

K. Rich. Madam, I have 'a touch of your condition,

That cannot brook the accent of reproof.

Dutch. I will be mild and gentle in my words.

K. Rich. And brief, good mother, for I am in haste.

Dutch. Art thou so hasty? I have staid for thee, God knows, in anguish, pain and agony.

K. Rich. And came I not at last to comfort you?

Dutch. No, by the holy rood, thou know'st it well, Thou can'st on earth to make the earth my hell.

A grievous burden was thy birth to me,

Tetchy and wayward was thy infancy;

Thy school-days frightful, desp'rate, wild and furious;

Thy prime of manhood, daring bold, and venturous;

Thy age confirm'd, proud, subtle, sly and bloody.

What comfortable hour canst thou name,

' That ever grac'd me in thy company?

K. Rich. Faith none but *Humphry Hours*, that call'd your Grace

To breakfast once, forth of my company.

If I be so disgracious in your sight,

Let me march on, and not offend your Grace.

—Strike up the drum.

Dutch. I pry'thee, hear me speak.

⁹ *A touch of your condition.] A spice or particle of your temper or disposition.*

¹ *That ever grac'd me.] To*

grace seems here to mean the same as to *bliss*; to make happy. So *gracious* is kind, and *grace* are favours.

K. Rich.

KING RICHARD III. 329

Rich. You speak too bitterly.

Rich. Hear me a word,
I shall never speak to thee again.

Rich. So?—

Rich. Either thou'lt die by God's just ordinance,
from this war thou turn a conqueror;
with grief and extream age shall perish,
never look upon thy face again.

before take with thee my most heavy Curse;
rich, in the day of battle, tire thee more,
in all the compleat armour that thou wear'st!

prayers on the adverse party fight,
I there the little souls of *Edward's* children
isper the spirits of thine enemies,
I promise them success and victory!

body thou art, bloody will be thy end!

same serves thy life, and doth thy death attend.

[*Exit.*

Queen. Tho' far more cause, yet much less spirit to
curse

ides in me, I say Amen to her.

[*Going.*

K. Rich. Stay, Madam, I must speak a word
with you.

Queen. I have no more Sons of the royal blood
r thee to slaughter; for my daughters, *Richard*,
ey shall be praying Nuns, not weeping Queens;
id therefore level not to hit their lives.

K. Rich. You have a daughter call'd *Elizabeth*,
rtuous and fair, royal and gracious.

Queen. And must she die for this? O let her live,
id I'll corrupt her manners, stain her beauty,
under myself as false to *Edward's* bed,
row over her the veil of infamy;

[*Shame serves thy life.*] To
ve is to accompany, servants
ing near the persons of their
isters.

dialogue, 'tis not necessary to
bestow much criticism: part of
it is ridiculous, and the whole
improbable.

[*Stay, Madam,*] On this

So

330 KING RICHARD III.

So she may live unscarr'd from bleeding slaughter,
I will contends she was not *Edward's* daughter.

K. Rich. Wrong not her birth, she is of royal
blood.

Queen. To save her life, I'll say, she is not so.

K. Rich. Her life is safest only in her birth.

Queen. And only in that safety dy'd her brothers.

K. Rich. No, at their births good stars were op-
posite.

Queen. No, to their lives bad friends were contrary.

K. Rich. All unavoided is the doom of destiny.

Queen. True; when avoided grace makes destiny.
My babes were destin'd to a fairer death,
If grace had blest thee with a fairer life.

K. Rich. You speak, as if that I had slain my
cousins?

Queen. Cousins, indeed; and by their Uncle cozen'd
Of Comfort, Kingdom, Kindred, Freedom, Life,
Whose hands foevers lanc'd their tender hearts,
Thy head, all indirectly, gave direction.
No doubt, the murd'rous knife was dull and blunt
Till it was whetted on thy stone-hard heart
To revel in the intrails of my lambs.
But that still use of grief makes wild grief tame
My tongue should to thy ears not name my boys
Till that my nails were anchor'd in thine eyes;
And I in such a desp'rate bay of death,
Like a poor bark, of sails and tackling reft,
Rush all to pieces on thy rocky bosom.

K. Rich. Madam, so thrive I in my enterprize,
And dangerous success of bloody wars,
As I intend more good to you and yours,
Than ever you or yours by me were harm'd.

Queen. What good is cover'd with the face of heav'n,
To be discover'd, that can do me good?

K. Rich. Th' advancement of your children, gen-
tle lady.

Queen. Up to some scaffold, there to lose their heads.

K. Rich.

K. *Rich.* No, to the dignity and height of fortune,
The high imperial type of this earth's glory.

Queen. Flatter my sorrows with report of it.
Tell me, what state, what dignity, what honour,
Canst thou demise to any child of mine?

K. *Rich.* Ev'n all I have; ay, and myself and all,
Will I withal endow a child of thine?
So in the *Lethe* of thy angry soul.

Thou drown the sad Remembrance of those wrongs;
Which, thou supposest, I have done to thee.

Queen. Be brief, lest that the process of thy kindness

Last longer telling than thy kindness do.

K. *Rich.* Then know, that from my soul I love thy daughter.

Queen. My daughter's mother thinks it with her soul.

K. *Rich.* What do you think?

Queen. That thou dost love my daughter, from thy soul.

So from thy soul's love, didst thou love her brothers;
And from my heart's love I do thank thee for it.

K. *Rich.* Be not so hasty to confound my meanings;
I mean, that with my soul I love thy daughter;
And do intend to make her Queen of *England*.

Queen. Say then, who dost thou mean shall be her King?

K. *Rich.* Ev'n he that makes her Queen; who else should be?

Queen. What, thou?

K. *Rich.* Even so; how think you of it?

Queen. How canst thou woo her?

K. *Rich.* I would learn of you,
As one being best acquainted with her humour.

* The high imperial type]
Type is exhibition, shew, display.

† Canst thou demise—] The sense of the word demise is evi-

dent, but I do not remember it any where so used: perhaps it should be *devise*, which the lawyers use, for to transfer, or make over.

332 KING RICHARD III.

Queen. And wilt thou learn of me?

K. Rich. With all my heart.

Queen. Send to her, by the man that slew her brothers

A pair of bleeding hearts; thereon engrave
Edward and *York*; then haply will she weep:
 Therefore present to her, ⁶ as sometime *Marg'ret*
 Did to thy father, steeped in *Rutland's* blood,
 A handkerchief; which, say to her, did drain
 The purple tide from her sweet brothers bodies,
 And bid her wipe her weeping eyes therewith.
 If this inducement move her not to love,
 Send her a letter of thy noble deeds;
 Tell her, thou mad'st away her uncle *Clarence*,
 Her uncle *Rivers*; ay, and for her sake,
 Mad'st quick conveyance with her good aunt *Anne*.

K. Rich. You mock me, Madam; this is not the way

To win your daughter.

Queen. There's no other way,
 Unless thou could'st put on some other shape,
 And not be *Richard* that hath done all this.

K. Rich. Say, that I did all this for love of her.

Queen. Nay then, indeed, she cannot chuse but
 hate thee;
 Having bought love with such a ⁷ bloody spoil.

K. Rich. Look, what is done, cannot be now
 amended;
 Men shall deal unadvisedly sometimes,
 Which after-hours give leisure to repent of.
 If I did take the kingdom from your sons,
 To make amends, I'll give it to your daughter.
 If I have kill'd the issue of your womb,
 To quicken your increase I will beget

⁶ *As sometime Marg'ret*] Here is another reference to the plays of *Henry VI.* ⁷ *Bloody spoil.*] *Spoil* is waste, havock.

line issue of your blood, upon your daughter.
 grandam's name is little less in love,
 than is the doting title of a mother ;
 They are as children but one step below,
 Even of your metal, of your very blood :
 Of all one pain, save for a night of groans
 Endur'd of her, for whom you^s bid like sorrow.
 Your children were vexation to your youth,
 But mine shall be a comfort to your age.
 The loss you have, is but a son being King ;
 And by that loss your daughter is made Queen.
 I cannot make you what amends I would,
 Therefore accept such kindness as I can.
 Dorset your son, that with a fearful soul
 Leads discontented steps in foreign soil,
 This fair alliance quickly shall call home
 To high promotions, and great dignity.
 The King, that calls your beauteous daughter wife,
 Familiarly shall call thy Dorset brother.
 Again shall you be mother to a King ;
 And all the ruins of distressful times
 Repair'd with double riches of content.
 What ! we have many goodly days to see.
 The liquid drops of tears, that you have shed,
 Shall come again, transform'd to orient pearl ;
^s Advantaging their lone with interest
 Of ten times double gain of happiness.
 Go then, my mother, to thy daughter go ;

^s *Bid* is the past tense from *bids*.

⁹ *Advantaging their Love with Interest,*

Often times double Gain of Happiness.] My easy Emendation will convince every Reader *Love* and *Lone* are made out of one another, by a Letter turned upside down. *Often-*

times is a stupid Concretion of three Words. My Emendation gives this apt and easy Sense. *The Tears, that you have lent to your Afflictions, shall be turn'd into Gems ; and requite you by way of Interest, with Happiness twenty times as great as your Sorrows have been.*

THEOBALD.

Make

334 KING RICHARD III.

Make bold her bashful years with your experience ;
 Prepare her ears to hear a wooer's tale ;
 Put in her tender heart th' aspiring flame
 Of golden Sov'reignty ; acquaint the Princess
 With the sweet silent hours of marriage joys.
 And when this arm of mine hath chastised
 The petty rebel, dull-brain'd *Buckingham*,
 Bound with triumphant garlands will I come,
 And lead thy daughter to a Conqueror's bed ;
 To whom I will retail my Conquest won,
 And she shall be sole victress, *Cesar's Cesar* !

Queen. What were I best to say, her father's brother
 Would be her Lord ? or shall I say, her uncle ?
 Or he that slew her brothers, and her uncles ?
 Under what title shall I woo for thee,
 That God, the law, my honour, and her love,
 Can make seem pleasing to her tender years ?

K. Rich. Infer fair *England's* peace by this alliance.

Queen. Which she shall purchase with still lasting
 war.

K. Rich. Tell her, the King, that may command,
 intreats——

Queen. That at her hands, which the king's King
 forbids.

K. Rich. Say, she shall be a high and mighty
 Queen——

Queen. To wail the title, as her mother doth.

K. Rich. Say, I will love her everlastingly.

Queen. But how long shall that title, ever, last ?

K. Rich. Sweetly in force, unto her fair life's end.

Queen. But how long, fairly, shall her sweet life last ?

K. Rich. As long as heav'n and nature lengthen it.

Queen. As long as hell and *Richard* like of it.

K. Rich. Say, I, her Sov'reign, am her Subject now.

Queen. But she, your Subject, loaths such Sov'reignty.

K. Rich. Be eloquent in my behalf to her.

Queen. An honest tale speeds best, being plainly told.

K. Rich.

KING RICHARD III. 335

L. Rich. Then, in plain terms tell her my loving tale.

Queen. Plain, and not honest, is too harsh a stile.

L. Rich. Your reasons are too shallow, and too quick.

Queen. O no, my reasons are too deep and dead ;
o deep and dead poor infants in their grave ;
up on it still shall I, till heart-strings break.

L. Rich. Harp not on that string, Madam ; that is past.

sway by my *George*, my Garter, and my Crown——

Queen. Profan'd, dishonour'd, and the third usurp'd.

L. Rich. I swear.

Queen. By nothing, for this is no oath.

L. George, profan'd, hath lost his holy honour ;

L. Garter, blemish'd, pawn'd his knightly virtue ;

L. Crown, usurp'd, disgrac'd his kingly glory.

By something thou wouldst swear to be believ'd,
or then by something that thou hast not wrong'd.

L. Rich. Now by the world——

Queen. 'Tis full of thy foul wrongs.

L. Rich. My father's death——

Queen. Thy life hath that dishonour'd.

L. Rich. Then by myself.

Queen. Thyself thyself misuseth.

L. Rich. Why then, by heav'n——

Queen. Heav'n's wrong is most of all.

Thou didst fear to break an oath with heav'n,

to deny the King my husband made

thou hadst not broken, nor my brothers dy'd.

Thou hadst fear'd to break an oath with heav'n,

the imperial metal circling now thy head

disgrac'd the tender temples of my child ;

where both the Princes had been breathing here ;

which now, two tender bed-fellows for dust,

broken faith hath made a prey to worms.

Canst thou swear by now ?

L. Rich. By time to come.

Queen.

336 KING RICHARD III.

Queen. That thou hast wronged in the time o'è
past,

For I myself have many tears to wash

Hereafter time, for time past wrong'd by thee.

The children live, whose fathers thou hast slaughter'd

Ungovern'd youth, to wail it in their age.

The parents live, whose children thou hast butcher'd,

Old wither'd plants, to wail it in their age.

Swear not by time to come, for that thou hast

Misus'd ere us'd, by times ill-us'd o'erpast.

K. Rich. As I intend to prosper and repent,

So thrive I in my dangerous attempt

Of hostile arms ! myself, myself confound,

Heaven and fortune bar me happy hours,

Day yield me not thy light, nor night thy rest,

Be opposite all planets of good luck

To my proceeding, if with pure heart's love,

Immaculate devotion, holy thoughts,

I tender not thy beauteous Princely daughter.

In her consists my happiness, and thine ;

Without her, follows to myself and thee,

Herself, the Land, and many a christian soul,

Death, desolation, ruin, and decay,

It cannot be avoided, but by this ;

It will not be avoided, but by this ;

Therefore, dear mother, (I must call you so,)

Be the attorney of my love to her ;

Plead what I will be, not what I have been,

Not my deserts, but what I will deserve :

Urge the necessity and state of times,

And be not peevish found in great designs.

Queen. Shall I be tempted of the Devil thus ?

K. Rich. Ay, if the Devil tempt thee to do good

Queen. Shall I forget myself to be myself ?

K. Rich. Ay, if your self's remembrance w
yourself.

Queen. But thou didst kill my children.

K. Rich. But in your daughter's womb I bury th

W

KING RICHARD III. 337

Where in that nest of spicery they shall breed
Selves of themselves, to your recomforture.

Queen. Shall I go win my daughter to thy will?

K. Rich. And be a happy mother by the deed.

Queen. I go, write to me shortly.

K. Rich. Bear her my true love's kiss, and so fare-
wel. [*Kissing her.* *Exit Queen.*]
—Relenting fool, and shallow, changing, woman!

S C E N E VI.

Enter Ratcliff.

Rat. Most mighty Sovereign, on the western coast
Rideth a puissant Navy; to our shores
Throng many doubtful hollow-hearted friends,
Unarm'd, and unresolv'd to beat them back;
'Tis thought that *Richmond* is their Admiral,
And there they hull, expecting but the aid
Of *Buckingham*, to welcome them ashore.

K. Rich. Some light-foot friend post to the Duke
of *Norfolk*,

Ratcliff, thyself; or *Catesby*; where is he?

Cates. Here, my good Lord.

K. Rich. *Catesby*, fly to the Duke.

Cates. I will, my Lord, with all convenient haste.

K. Rich. *Ratcliff*, come hither, post to *Salisbury*;
When thou com'st thither—dull unmindful villain,
[*To Cates.*

Why stay'st thou here, and go'st not to the Duke?

Cates. First, mighty Liege, tell me your Highness'
pleasure,

What from your Grace I shall deliver to him.

K. Rich. O true, good *Catesby*. Bid him levy strait

* Some light-foot friend post to the Duke.] *Richard's* precipitation and confusion is in this scene very happily represented by inconsistent orders, and sudden variations of opinion.

338 KING RICHARD III.

The greatest strength and power he can make,
And meet me suddenly at *Salisbury*.

Cates. I go.

[*Exit.*

Rat. What, may it please you, shall I do at *Salisbury*?

K. Rich. Why, what wouldst thou do there, before I go?

Rat. Your Highness told me, I should post before.

K. Rich. My mind is chang'd——

Enter Lord Stanley.

Stanley, what news with you?

Stanl. None good, my Liege, to please you with the hearing;

Nor none so bad, but well may be reported.

K. Rich. Heyday, a riddle! neither good nor bad:
Why dost thou run so many miles about,
When thou may'st tell thy tale the nearest way;
Once more, what news?

Stanl. *Richmond* is on the seas.

K. Rich. There let him sink, and be the seas on him!
White-liver'd Runnagate, what doth he there?

Stanl. I know not, mighty Sovereign, but by guess.

K. Rich. Well, as you guess.

Stanl. Stirr'd up by *Dorset*, *Buckingham*, and *Morton*,
He makes for *England*, here to claim the Crown.

K. Rich. Is the Chair empty? is the Sword unsway'd?

Is the King dead? the Empire unpossess'd?

What Heir of *York* is there alive, but We?

And who is *England's* King, but great *York's* heir?

Then tell me, what makes he upon the sea?

Stanl. Unless for that, my Liege, I cannot guess.

K. Rich. Unless for that he comes to be your Liege,
You cannot guess wherefore the *Welsh-man* comes.
Thou wilt revolt, and fly to him, I fear.

Stanl. No, mighty Liege, therefore mistrust me not.

K. Rich.

KING RICHARD III 339

K. Rich. Where is thy Power then to beat him
back?

Where are thy Tenants, and thy Followers?

Are they not now upon the western shore,
Safe-conducting the Rebels from their ships?

Stanl. No, my good Lord, my friends are in the
North.

K. Rich. Cold friends to me. What do they in the
North,

When they should serve their Sov'reign in the West?

Stanl. They have not been commanded, mighty
King?

Please it your Majesty to give me leave,
I'll muster up my friends, and meet your Grace,
Where, and what time your Majesty shall please.

K. Rich. Ay, thou wouldst fain be gone, to join
with *Richmond*,
But I'll not trust thee.

Stanl. Mighty Sovereign,
You have no cause to hold my friendship doubtful.
I never was, nor never will be, false.

K. Rich. Go then, and muster men; but leave be-
hind
Your son *George Stanley*; look, your heart be firm,
Or else his head's assurance is but frail.

Stanl. So deal with him, as I prove true to you!
[*Exit Stanley.*]

Enter a Messenger.

Mes. My gracious Sov'reign, now in *Devonshire*,
As I by friends am well advertised,
Sir *Edmund Courtney*, and the haughty Prelate,
Bishop of Exeter, his elder brother,
With many more confed'rates, are in arms.

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Enter another Messenger.

Mef. In *Kent*, my Liege, the *Guilfords* are in arms,
And every hour ^a more competitors
Flock to the Rebels, and their Power grows strong.

Enter another Messenger.

Mef. My Lord, the army of the Duke of *Buckingham*—

K. Rich. Out on ye, owls! nothing but songs of death? *[He strikes him.]*

There, take thou that, 'till thou bring better news.

Mef. The news I have to tell your Majesty,
Is, that, by sudden floods and fall of waters,
Buckingham's army is dispers'd and scatter'd;
And he himself wander'd away alone,
No man knows whither.

K. Rich. Oh! I cry thee mercy.
There is my purse, to cure that blow of thine.
Hath any well-advised friend proclaim'd
Reward to him that brings the traitor in?

Mef. Such Proclamation hath been made, my Liege.

Enter another Messenger.

Mef. Sir *Thomas Lovel*, and Lord Marquis *Dorset*,
'Tis said, my Liege, in *Yorkshire* are in arms;
But this good comfort bring I to your Highness,
The *Bretagne* Navy is disperfed, by tempest.
Richmond in *Dorsetshire* sent out a boat
Unto the shore, to ask those on the banks,
If they were his assistants, yea, or no;
Who answered him, they came from *Buckingham*.
Upon his Party; he, mistrusting them,
Hois'd sail, and made his course for *Bretagney*.

^a *More competitors.]* That is, more opponents.

K. Rich

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K. *Rich.* March on, march on, since we are up in arms,
If not to fight with foreign enemies,
Yet to beat down these Rebels here at home.

Enter Catesby.

Catesby. My Liege, the Duke of *Buckingham* is taken,
That is the best news. That the Earl of *Richmond*
With a mighty Pow'r landed at *Milford*,
Is colder news, but yet it must be told.

K. *Rich.* Away tow'rds *Salisbury*; while we reason here,
A royal battle might be won and lost.
Some one take order, *Buckingham* be brought
To *Salisbury*; the rest march on with me. [*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E VII.

Changes to the Lord Stanley's House.

Enter Lord Stanley, and Sir Christopher Urswick.

Stanl. SIR *Christopher*, tell *Richmond* this from me;
That in the sty of this most bloody Boar,
My son *George Stanley* is frankt up in hold;
If I revolt, off goes young *George's* head;
The fear of that holds off my present aid.

[*Sir Christopher, tell Richmond this from me;*] The intermarried with the Lord *Stan-*
person, who is call'd *Sir Christopher* ley. This Priest, the History tells
ber here, and who has been us, frequently went backwards
il'd so in the *Dramatis Personæ* and forwards, unsuspected, on
f all the Impressions, I find by Messages betwixt the Countess of
he Chronicles to have been *Richmond*, and her Husband, and
Christopher Urswick, a Bachelor the young Earl of *Richmond*,
n Divinity; and Chaplain to the whilst he was preparing to make
Countess of *Richmond*, who had his Descent on *England*.

THEOBALD,

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So, get thee gone; commend me to thy Lord;
Say too, the Queen hath heartily consented
He should espouse *Elizabeth* her daughter.
But tell me, where is princely *Richmond* now?

Chri. At *Pembroke*, or at *Harford-west* in *Wales*,

Stanl. What men of name resort to him?

Chri. Sir *Walter Herbert*, a renowned soldier,
Sir *Gilbert Talbot*, and Sir *William Stanley*,
Oxford, redoubted *Pembroke*, Sir *James Blunt*,
And *Rice ap Thomas*, with a valiant crew,
And many others of great name and worth;
And towards *London* do they bend their Power,
If by the way they be not fought withal.

Stanl. Well, hie thee to thy Lord, I kiss his hand,
My Letter will resolve him of my mind.
Farewel. [Exit]

ACT V. SCENE I.

SALISBURY.

*Enter the Sheriff, and Buckingham, with halberds,
led to Execution.*

BUCKINGHAM.

WILL not King *Richard* let me speak with him?
Sher. No, good my Lord, therefore be patient.

Buck. *Hastings*, and *Edward's* children, *Gray* and
Rivers,

Holy King *Henry*, and thy fair son *Edward*,
Vaughan, and all that have miscarried
By under-hand, corrupted, foul injustice;
If that your moody, discontented, souls
Do through the clouds behold this present hour,

†

Ev'n

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for revenge mock my destruction.
 'Tis *All-Souls* day, fellows, is it not?
 Her. It is, my Lord.
 W. Why, then *All-Souls* day is my body's
 Doomday.

'Tis the day, which in King *Edward's* time
 Th'd might fall on me, when I was found
 To his children, or his wife's allies.
 'Tis the day, wherein I wish'd to fall
 The false faith of him whom must I trusted:
 'Tis, this *All-Souls* day to my fearful Soul,
 The determin'd respite of my wrongs.
 O high All-seer, which I dallied with,
 Thou turn'd my feigned prayer on my head,
 Giv'n in earnest, what I begg'd in jest.
 'Tis doth he force the swords of wicked men
 To turn their own points on their masters' bosoms.
 'Tis *Marg'ret's* Curse falls heavy on my head.
 When he, quoth she, shall split thy heart with sorrow,
 Remember, *Marg'ret* was a Prophetess.
 O, Sirs, convey me to the block of shame;
 Long hath but wrong, and ' blame the due of blame.

[*Exeunt Buckingham, Sheriff and Officers.*

*Is the determin'd RESPIRE of
 my wrongs.]* This is non-
 sense, we should read RESPECT
 my wrongs, i. e. requital.

WARBURTON.
Warmer had rightly explained
 the time to which the punish-
 ment of his wrongs was respited.
 Wrong in this line means
 sins done, or injurious prac-

Blame the due of blame.]
 The scene should, in my opi-
 nion, be added to the foregoing
 so the fourth act will have a

more full and striking conclu-
 sion, and the fifth act will com-
 prise the business of the impor-
 tant day, which put an end to
 the competition of *York* and *Lan-*
caster. Some of the quarto edi-
 tions are not divided into acts,
 and it is probable that this and
 many other plays were left by the
 authour in one unbroken conti-
 nuity, and afterwards distributed
 by chance, or what seems to
 have been a guide very little bet-
 ter, by the judgment or caprice
 of the first editors.

S C E N E II.

*Tamworth, on the Borders of Leicester-Shire,
A Camp.*

*Enter Richmond, Oxford, Blunt, Herbert, and others,
with Drum and Colours.*

Richm. **F**ELLOWS in arms, and my most loving friends,
Bruis'd underneath the yoke of tyranny,
Thus far into the bowels of the Land
Have we march'd on without impediment;
And here receive we from our father *Stanley*
Lines of fair comfort and encouragement.
The wretched, bloody, and usurping Boar,
That spoil'd your summer-fields, and fruitful vines,
Swills your warm blood like wash, and makes his
trough

In your ^o embowell'd bosoms; this foul swine
Lies now ev'n in the centre of this Isle,
Near to the town of *Leicester*, as we learn;
From *Tamworth* thither is but one day's march.
In God's name, cheerly on, courageous friends,
To reap the harvest of perpetual peace,
By this one bloody trial of sharp war.

Oxf. Ev'ry man's conscience is a thousand swords,
To fight against that bloody homicide.

Herb. I doubt not, but his friends will fly to us.

Blunt. He hath no friends, but who are friends for
fear,

Which in his dearest Need will fly from him.

^o Embowell'd bosoms.] Exen-
terated; ripped up; alluding,
perhaps, to the *Promethean* vul-
ture; or, more probably, to the
sentence pronounced in the *Eng-*

lish courts against traitors, by
which they are condemned to
be hanged, drawn, *that is, em-*
bowell'd, and quartered.

Richm.

KING RICHARD III. 345

Richm. All for our vantage—then, in God's name,
march.

e hope is swift, and flies with Swallow's wings,
as it makes Gods, and meaner creatures Kings.

[*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E III.

Changes to Bosworth Field.

*King Richard in arms, with Norfolk, Surrey,
Ratcliff, Catesby, and others.*

Rich. **H**ERE pitch our Tents, even here in
Bosworth field.

Lord of *Surrey*, why look you so sad?

Surrey. My heart is ten times lighter than my looks.

Rich. My Lord of *Norfolk*——

Surrey. Here, most gracious Liege.

Rich. *Norfolk*, we must have knocks: ha, must
we not?

Surrey. We must both give and take, my gracious
Lord.

Rich. Up with my tent, here will I lie to night;
where to morrow?——well, all's one for that.

Who hath descry'd the number of the traitors?

Surrey. Sir, or sev'n thousand is their utmost Power.

Rich. Why, our Battalion trebles that account;

besides, the King's name is a tower of strength,

which they upon the adverse faction want.

With the tent. Come, noble gentlemen,

let us survey the vantage of the ground.

For some men of sound direction;

who want no discipline, make no delay,

For Lords, to morrow is a busy day. [*Exeunt.*]

[*Sound direction.*] True judgment; tried military skill.

S C E N E

SCENE *changes to another Part of Bosworth field.*

Enter Richmond, Sir William Brandon, Oxford, and Dorset.

Richm. THE weary Sun hath made a golden Set,
And, by the bright tract of his fiery car,
Gives signal of a goodly day to-morrow.

—Sir *William Brandon*, you shall bear my standard;

The Earl of *Pembroke* keep his regiment;

—Good Captain *Blunt*, bear my good night to him;

And by the second hour in the morning

Desire the Earl to see me in my tent.

—Yet one thing more, good *Blunt*, before thou goest,
Where is Lord *Stanley* quarter'd, dost thou know?

Blunt. Unless I have mista'en his quarters much,
Which well I am assur'd, I have not done,
His regiment lies half a mile at least
South from the mighty power of the King.

Richm. If without peril it be possible,
Sweet *Blunt*, make some good means to speak with him,
And give him from me this most heedful Note.

Blunt. Upon my life, my Lord, I'll undertake it.

Richm. * Give me some ink and paper; in my tent
I'll draw the form and model of our battle,
Limit each leader to his several charge,
And part in just proportion our small strength.
Let us consult upon to-morrow's business.
—Into our tent, the air is raw and cold.

[They withdraw into the tent.]

* *Give me some ink and paper;*]
I have placed these lines here as
they stand in the first editions:
the rest place them three speeches
before, after the words *Sir*
William Brandon, you shall bear
my standard; interrupting what

there follows: *The Earl of Pem-*
broke, &c. I think them more
naturally introduced here, when
he is retiring to his tent; and
considering what he has to do
that night.

POPE.

SCENE

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SCENE changes back to King Richard's Tent.

Enter King Richard, Ratcliff, Norfolk, and Catesby.

K. Rich. **W**HAT is't o'clock?

Cates. It's supper time, my Lord; 't's nine o'clock.

K. Rich. I will not sup to night.

Give me some Ink and Paper.

What, is my beaver easier than it was,

and all my armour laid into my tent?

Cates. It is, my Liege, and all things are in readiness.

K. Rich. Good Norfolk, hie thee to thy charge; Use careful watch, chuse trusty centinels.

Nor. I go, my Lord.

K. Rich. Stir with the lark to-morrow, gentle Norfolk.

Nor. I warrant you, my Lord.

[Exit.

K. Rich. Catesby——

Cates. My Lord.

K. Rich. Send out a pursuivant at arms to Stanley's regiment; bid him bring his Power before Sun-rising, lest his son George fall into the blind Cave of eternal Night.

Will me a bowl of wine——⁹ give me a watch——

[To Ratcliff.

addle white Sarrey for the field to-morrow.

⁹ Give me a watch.] A watch has many significations, but should believe that it means in this place not a *sentinel*, which could be regularly placed at the king's tent; nor an instrument to measure time, which was not used in that age; but a watch-

light, a candle to burn by him; the light that afterwards *burns blue*; yet, a few lines after, he says,

Bid my guard watch.

which leaves it doubtful whether watch is not here a *sentinel*.

Look,

348 KING RICHARD III.

' Look, that my staves be sound, and not too heavy.

Ratcliff——

Rat. My Lord?

K. Rich. Saw'st thou the melancholy Lord *Northumberland*?

Rat. *Thomas* the Earl of *Surrey*, and himself,
Much about cock-shut time, from troop to troop,
Went through the army, cheering up the soldiers.

K. Rich. I am satisfy'd; give me a bowl of wine.
I have not that alacrity of spirit,
Nor cheer of mind, that I was wont to have.
—There, set it down.—Is ink and paper ready?

Rat. It is, my Lord.

K. Rich. Bid my Guard watch, and leave me.
About the mid of night come to my tent,
And help to arm me.—Leave me now, I say.

[*Exit Ratcliff.*]

S C E N E IV.

Changes back to Richmond's Tent.

Enter Stanley to Richmond, Lords, &c.

Stanl. Fortune and Victory sit on thy helm!

Richm. All comfort, that the dark night
can afford,

Be to thy person, noble father-in-law!

Tell me, how fares our loving mother?

Stanl. I, ^a by attorney, bless thee from thy mother;
Who prays continually for *Richmond's* good:
So much for that—The silent hours steal on,
And flaky darkness breaks within the East.
In brief, for so the season bids us be,

^a *Look that my staves be sound.*] *Staves* are the wood of the lances.

^a *By attorney.*] By deputation.

Prepare thy battle early in the morning;
 And put thy fortune to th' Arbitrement
 Of bloody strokes, and mortal staring war.
 I, as I may, that which I would, I cannot,
 With best advantage will deceive the time,
 And aid thee in this doubtful shock of arms.
 But on thy side I may not be too forward,
 Lest, being seen, thy brother, tender *George*,
 Be executed in his father's Sight.
 Farewel. ⁴ The leisure, and the fearful time
 Cuts off the ceremonious vows of love,
 And ample interchange of sweet discourse,
 Which so-long-sundred friends should dwell upon.
 God give us leisure for these Rites of love!
 Once more, adieu. Be valiant and speed well.

Richm. Good Lords, conduct him to his regiment:
 I'll strive, with troubled thoughts, to take a nap;
 Lest leaden slumber poize me down to-morrow,
 When I should mount with wings of victory.
 —Once more, good night, kind Lords, and gentle-
 men. [*Exeunt. Manet Richmond.*]

—O Thou! whose Captain I account myself,
 Look on my forces with a gracious eye,
 Put in their hands thy bruising irons of wrath,
 That they may crush down with a heavy fall
 Th' usurping helmets of our adversaries!
 Make us thy Ministers of chastisement,
 That we may praise thee in thy victory.

³ *I, as I may——*
With best advantage will de-
ceive the time. } I will take
 the best opportunity to elude the
 dangers of this conjuncture.

⁴ —*The leisure, and the fear-*
ful time,
Cuts off the ceremonious vows
of love.] We have still a
 phrase equivalent to this, howe-

ver harsh it may seem, *I would*
do this if leisure would permit,
 where *leisure*, as in this passage,
 stands for *want of leisure*. So
 again,

——*More than I have said,*
The leisure and enforcement of
the time
Forbids to dwell upon.

350 KING RICHARD III

To thee I do commend my watchful soul,
Ere I let fall the windows of mine eyes;
Sleeping and waking, oh, defend me still! [Sleeps.]

SCENE V.

*Between the Tents of Richard and Richmond:
They sleeping.*

*Enter the Ghost of Prince Edward, Son to Henry
the Sixth.*

Ghost. LET me sit heavy on thy soul to-morrow!
[To K. Rich.]

Think, how thou stab'st me in the prime of youth
At Tewksbury; therefore despair and die.

—Be cheerful, *Richmond*; for the wronged souls
[To Richm.]

Of butcher'd Princes fight in thy behalf;
King *Henry's* issue, *Richmond*, comforts thee.

Enter the Ghost of Henry the Sixth.

Ghost. When I was mortal, my anointed body
[To K. Rich.]

By thee was punched full of deadly holes;
Think on the *Tower*, and me; despair, and die.
Henry the Sixth bids thee despair, and die.

—Virtuous and holy, be thou Conqueror. [To Richm.]
Harry * that prophesy'd thou shouldst be King,
Doth comfort thee in sleep; live thou and flourish.

Enter the Ghost of Clarence.

Ghost. Let me set heavy on thy soul to-morrow!
[To K. Rich.]

I, that was wash'd to death in fulsom wine,
Poor *Clarence*, by thy guile betray'd to death.
To-morrow in the battle think on me,

* This prophecy, to which in one of the parts of *Henry* the
this allusion is made, was uttered sixth.

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And fall thy edgeless sword; despair and die.
—Thou offspring of the House of *Lancaster*,

[*To Richard*]
The wronged heirs of *York* do pray for thee;
Good angels guard thy battle! live, and flourish.

Enter the Ghosts of Rivers, Gray, and Vaughan.

Riv. Let me sit heavy on thy soul to-morrow!
[*To K. Rich.*

Rivers, that dy'd at *Pomfret*. Despair, and die.

Gray. Think upon *Gray*, and let thy soul despair.
[*To K. Rich.*

Vaugb. Think upon *Vaughan*, and with guilty fear
Let fall thy lance! *Richard*, despair and die.

[*To K. Rich.*
All. Awake! and think, our wrongs in *Richard's*
bosom

Will conquer him,—Awake, and win the day.
[*To Richard.*

Enter the Ghost of Lord Hastings.

Ghost. Bloody and guilty, guiltily awake;
[*To K. Rich.*

And in a bloody battle end thy days.
Think on Lord *Hastings*; and despair and die.

—Quiet, untroubled soul, awake, awake! [*To Richard*]
Arm, fight, and conquer, for fair *England's* sake.

Enter the Ghosts of the two young Princes.

Ghosts. Dream on thy cousins smother'd in the
Tower.

'Let us be lead within thy bosom, *Richard*,
[*To K. Rich.*
And

'Let us be laid within thy Bosom, Richard.] This is a poor feeble Reading, I have re-
stored from the elder Quarto, pu-

352 KING RICHARD III.

And weigh thee down to ruin, shame, and death;
Thy Nephews' souls bid thee despair and die.

—Sleep, *Richmond*, sleep in peace; and wake in joy.
[To *Richm.*]

Good angels guard thee from the boar's annoy!
Live, and beget a happy race of Kings——
Edward's unhappy sons do bid thee flourish.

Enter the Ghost of Anne, his wife.

Ghost. Richard, thy wife, that wretched *Anne* thy
wife, [To *K. Rich.*]

That never slept a quiet hour with thee,
Now fills thy sleep with perturbations.
To-morrow in the battle think on me,
And fall thy edgeless sword: despair and die.
—Thou, quiet soul, sleep thou a quiet sleep,
[To *Richm.*]

Dream of success and happy victory,
Thy adversary's wife doth pray for thee.

Enter the Ghost of Buckin gham.

Ghost. The first was I, that help'd thee to the Crown,
[To *K. Rich.*]

The last was I, that felt thy tyranny.
O, in the battle think of *Buckingham*,
And die in terror of thy guiltiness.
Dream on, dream on, of bloody deeds and death;
Fainting, despair; despairing, yield thy breath.
—⁶ I dy'd for hope, ere I could lend thee aid;

[To *Richm.*
But

published in 1597, which Mr. *Pope* does not pretend to have seen;

Let us be Lead within thy Bosom, Richard.

This corresponds with what is

said in the Line immediately following,

And weigh thee down to Ruin, Shame, and Death!

THEOBALD.

⁶ *I dy'd for Hope*] i. e. I died for

thy heart, and be thou not dismay'd;
good angels fight on *Richmond's* side,
and fall in height of all his pride.

[*The Ghosts vanish.*

[*K. Richard starts out of his dream.*

b. Give me another horse——bind up my
wounds——

rcy, *Jesu*——soft, I did but dream.

nd Conscience, how dost thou afflict me?

ts burn blue——is it not dead midnight?

ful drops stand on my trembling flesh.

I fear myself? there's none else by;

oves *Richard*; that is, I am I.

murderer here? no—yes, I am.

—what, from myself? Great reason; why?

g well to you. But
id, with great saga-
ctured *holpe* or *aid*;
e the line this fine
ed for giving the aid
ld give thee aid.

WARBURTON.
reads, *I died* forsoke,
ts his conjecture thus.
appears from history,
ale of the Duke of
: that being stopt
my upon the banks of
great deluges of rain
serted by his soldiers,
in great distress, half
for want of victuals,
rte of pay, disbanded
and fled. HANMER.
e another horse.] There
as in many of our au-
teches of passion, some-
trifling, and something
ng. *Richard's* debate,
e should quarrel with
s too long continued,
bsequent exaggeration
me is truly tragical.

⁸ *O coward Conscience!*] This
is extremely fine. The speaker
had entirely got the better of his
Conscience, and banished it from
all his waking thoughts. But it
takes advantage of his sleep, and
frights him in his dreams. With
greater elegance therefore he is
made to call it *coward Conscience*,
which dares not encounter him
while he is himself awake, and
his faculties entire; but takes ad-
vantage of reason being off its
guard, and the powers of the
soul dissolved in sleep. But the
Players, amongst their other in-
numerable absurdities in the re-
presentation of this Tragedy,
make *Richard* say, instead of *O*
coward Conscience, *O tyrant Con-*
science! whereby not only a great
beauty is lost, but a great blun-
der committed. For *Richard*
had entirely got the better of his
Conscience; which could on no
account, therefore, be said to
play the tyrant with him.

WARBURTON.

V.

A a

Left

354 KING RICHARD III.

Left I revenge. What? myself on myself?
 I love myself. Wherefore? for any good,
 That I myself have done unto myself?
 O, no. Alas, I rather hate myself,
 For hateful deeds committed by my Self.
 I am a villain; yet I lye, I am not.
 Fool, of thyself speak well—Fool, do not flatter.
 My conscience hath a thousand sev'ral tongues,
 And every tongue brings in a sev'ral Tale,
 And ev'ry Tale condemns me for a villain.
 Perjury, perjury in high'st degree,
 Murder, stern murder in the dir'st degree,
 All several sins, all us'd in each degree,
 Throng to the bar, all crying, *guilty! guilty!*
 I shall despair—there is no creature loves me:
 And if I die, no soul shall pity me.
 Nay, wherefore should they? since that I myself
 Find in myself no pity to myself.
 * Methought, the souls of all that I had murder'd
 Came to my tent, and every one did threat
 To morrow's vengeance on the head of *Richard*.

Enter Ratcliff.

Rat. My Lord.——

K. Rich. Who's there?

Rat. Ratcliff, my Lord. The early village-cock
 Hath twice done salutation to the morn;
 Your friends are up, and buckle on their armour.

K. Rich. Ratcliff, I fear, I fear——

Rat. Nay, good my Lord, be not afraid of shadows.

K. Rich. By the Apostle *Paul*, shadows to night
 Have struck more terror to the soul of *Richard*,
 Than can the substance of ten thousand soldiers

* *Methought, the souls, &c.*] These lines stand with so little propriety at the end of this speech, that I cannot but suggest them to be misplaced. Where then shall they be inserted? Perhaps after these words,
Fool do not flatter.

Armed

KING RICHARD III. 355

med in proof, and led by shallow *Richmond*.

s not yet near day ; come, go with me ;

ider our tents, I'll play the eaves-dropper ;

hear, if any mean to shrink from me.

[*Exeunt K. Richard and Ratcliff.*]

SCENE VI.

Enter the Lords to Richmond, sitting in his Tent.

Lords. Good morrow, *Richmond*.

Richm. 'Cry mercy, Lords and watchful gentlemen,
hat you have ta'en a tardy sluggard here.

Lords. How have you slept, my Lord ?

Richm. The sweetest sleep and fairest-boding dreams,
at ever enter'd in a drowsy head,

ave I since your departure had, my Lords.

ethought, their souls, whose bodies *Richard* murder'd,
me to my tent, and cry'd—On ! Victory !

romise you, my heart is very jocund,

the remembrance of so fair a dream.

ow far into the morning is it, Lords ?

Lords. Upon the stroke of four.

Richm. Why, then 'tis time to arm and give di-
rection.

ore than I have said, loving Countrymen,

he leisure and enforcement of the time

rbids to dwell on ; yet remember this,

ad and our good Cause fight upon our side,

re Pray'rs of holy Saints and wronged souls,

ke high rear'd bulwarks, stand before our faces.

Richard except, those, whom we fight against,

ad rather have us win, than him they follow.

or what is he, they follow ? truly, gentlemen,

bloody tyrant, and a homicide,

ne rais'd in blood, and one in blood establish'd ;

ne, that made means to come by what he hath,

nd slaughter'd those that were the means to help him,

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A base foul stone, made precious ⁹ by the foil
Of *England's* Chair, where he is falsely set,
One, that hath ever been God's enemy ;
Then if you fight against God's enemy,
God will in justice ward you as his soldiers.
If you do sweat to put a Tyrant down,
You sleep in peace, the tyrant being slain :
If you do fight against your Country's foes,
Your Country's Fat shall pay your pains the Hire.
If you do fight in safe guard of your wives,
Your wives shall welcome home the conquerors.
If you do free your children from the sword,
Your childrens' children quit it in your age.
Then, in the name of God, and all these rights,
Advance your standards ; draw your willing swords.
For me, ¹ the ransom of my bold attempt
Shall be this cold corps on the earth's cold face :
But if I thrive, the gain of my attempt,
The least of you shall share his part thereof.
Sound, drums and trumpets, boldly, cheerfully ;
God, and Saint *George* ! *Richmond*, and Victory ;

S C E N E VII.

Enter King Richard, Ratcliff and Catesby.

K. *Rich.* What said *Northumberland*, as touching
Richmond ?

Rat. That he was never trained up in arms.

K. *Rich.* He said the truth ; and what said *Sir*
then ?

Rat. He smil'd and said, the better for our purpose

⁹ ———— *By the foil*
Of *England's Chair*.] It is
plain that *foil* cannot here mean
that of which the obscurity re-
commends the brightness of the
diamond. It must mean the

leaf (*feuille*) or thin plate
metal in which the stone is set
¹ *The ransom of my bold*
tempt.] The *fine* paid
me in atonement for my ransom
shall be my dead corps.

K. Ri

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Rich. He was i'th'right, and so, indeed, it is.
 Tell the clock there——give me a Kalendar.

[*Clock strikes.*]

How saw the Sun to-day ?

at. Not I, my Lord.

Rich. Then he disdains to shine : for, by the
 book,

should have brav'd the East an hour ago.

Lack day it will be to some body,

Cliff.

at. My Lord ?

Rich. The Sun will not be seen to day ;
 The sky doth frown and lowre upon our army.
 Could these dewy tears were from the ground.
 Not shine to day ? why, what is that to me
 More than to *Richmond* ? for the self-same heav'n
 That frowns on me, looks sadly upon him.

Enter Norfolk.

Nor. Arm, arm, my Lord, the foe vaunts in the
 field.

Rich. Come bustle, bustle—caparison my horse.
 Call up Lord *Stanley*, bid him bring his Power ;
 All lead forth my soldiers to the plain,
 And thus my battle shall be ordered.

Forward shall be drawn out all in length,
 Consisting equally of horse and foot ;

Archers shall be placed in the midst ;

The Duke of *Norfolk*, *Thomas Earl of Surrey*,

Shall have the leading of the foot and horse.

By thus directed, we ourself will follow

The main battle, which on either side

Shall be well winged with our chieftest horse.

Thine, and *St. George* to boot ?—What think'st thou,

Norfolk ?

This and St. George to misse success, and over and above
boot.] That is, this is the this, is the protection of our
 Patron of our battle, which pro- patron Saint.

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Nor. A good direction, warlike Sovereign.
—This paper found I on my tent this morning.

[Giving a scroll.]

Jocky of Norfolk, *be not so bold,*
For Dickon thy master is bought and sold. [Reads.]

K. Rich. A thing devised by the enemy.
—Go, gentlemen, go, each man to his Charge.
Let not our babbling dreams affright our souls;
Conscience is but a word that cowards use,
Devis'd at first to keep the strong in awe:
Our strong arms be our conscience, swords our law.
March on, join bravely, let us to't pell-mell,
If not to heav'n, then hand in hand to hell.
What shall I say more than I have inferr'd?
Remember, whom you are to cope withal;
* A sort of vagabonds, of rascals, runaways,
A scum of Britons, and base lackey-peasants,
Whom their o'er-cloyed Country vomits forth
To desperate adventures and destruction.
You sleeping safe, they bring you to unrest:
You having lands, and bleit with beauteous wives,
† They would distrain the one, distain the other.
‡ And who doth lead them but a paltry fellow,
Long kept in *Bretagne* at his mother's cost?

* A sort, that is, a company,
a collection.

† They would RESTRAIN the
one, distain the other.] The
one means the Lands; the other
their wives. It is plain then we
should read.

They would DISTRAIN,
i. e. seize upon. WARE.

‡ And who doth lead them but
a paltry fellow,

Long kept in Britain at our Mo-
ther's Cost.] This is spoken
by Richard, of Henry Earl of
Richmond: but they were far

from having any common Mother,
but England: and the Earl of
Richmond was not subsisted a-
broad at the Nation's publick
Charge. During the greatest part
of his Residence abroad, he was
watch'd and restrain'd almost like
a Captive; and subsisted by Sup-
plies convey'd from the Coun-
tels of Richmond, his Mother.
It seems probable therefore, that
we must read;

Long kept in *Bretagne* at his
Mother's Cost.

THEOBALD.

A milk-fop, one that never in his life
Felt so much cold, as over shoes in snow.
Let's whip these stragglers o'er the seas again,
Lash hence these over-weening rags of *France*,
These famish'd beggars, weary of their lives;
Who, but for dreaming on this fond exploit,
For want of means, poor rats, had hang'd themselves.
If we be conquer'd, let men conquer us,
And not these bastard *Britons*, whom our fathers
Have in their own Land beaten, bobb'd, and thump'd;
And on record left them the heirs of shame.
Shall these enjoy our Lands? lie with our wives?
Ravish our daughters? — hark, I hear their drum.

[*Drum afar off.*]

Fight, gentlemen of *England*, fight, bold yeomen!
Draw, archers, draw your arrows to the head;
Spur your proud horses hard, and ride in blood,
'Amaze the welkin with your broken staves!

Enter Messenger.

What says Lord *Stanley*, will he bring his Power?

Mes. My Lord, he doth deny to come.

K. Rich. Off with his son *George's* head.

Nor. My Lord, the enemy hath past the marsh;
After the battle let *George Stanley* die.

K. Rich. A thousand hearts are great within my
bosom.

Advance our standards, set upon our foes;
Our ancient word of courage, fair *St. George*,
Inspire us with the spleen of fiery dragons.
Upon them! Victory sits on our helms.

[*Exeunt.*]

† That is, *fright the skies with the shivers of your Lances.*

SCENE VIII.

*Alarm. . Excursions. Enter Catesby.**Cates.* Rescue, my Lord of *Norfolk*! rescue! rescue!

The King enacts more wonders than a man,
 Daring an opposite to every danger!
 His horse is slain, and all on foot he fights,
 Seeking for *Richmond* in the throat of death.
 —Rescue, fair Lord, or else the day is lost.

*Alarm. Enter King Richard.**K. Rich.* A horse! a horse! my Kingdom for a horse!*Cates.* Withdraw, my Lord, I'll help you to a horse.

K. Rich. Slave, I have set my life upon a Cast,
 And I will stand the hazard of the Dye.
 —I think there be six *Richmonds* in the field;
 Five have I slain to day instead of him.
 —A horse! a horse! my Kingdom for a horse!

[*Exeunt.*]*Alarms. Enter King Richard and Richmond; they fight, Richard is slain.**Retreat and Flourish. Enter Richmond, Stanley bearing the Crown, with divers others Lords.**Rich.* God and your arms be prais'd, victorious friends,

The day is ours! the bloody dog is dead.

Stanl. Couragious *Richmond*, well hast thou acquit thee:

Lo, here these long-usurped royalties,
 From the dead temples of this bloody wretch,
 Have I pluckt off, to grace thy brows withal.

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'ear it, enjoy it, * and make use of it.

Richm. Great God of heaven, say, Amen, to all !
 It tell me first, is young *George Stanley* living ?

Stanl. He is my Lord, and safe in *Leicester* town ;
 Whither if you so please, we may withdraw us.

Richm. What men of Name are slain on either side ?

Stanl. *John Duke of Norfolk, Walter the Lord Ferris,*
Robert Brakenbury, Sir William Brandon.

Richm. Inter their bodies as becomes their births.
 Proclaim a pardon to the soldiers fled,
 That in submission will return to us.

And then, as we have ta'en the sacrament,
 We will unite the white Rose and the red ;
 Smile heav'n upon this fair conjunction,
 That long hath frown'd upon their enmity !
 What traitor hears me, and says not, *Amen* ?
 England hath long been mad, and scarr'd herself ;
 The brother blindly shed the brother's blood,
 The father rashly slaughter'd his own son,
 The sons, compell'd, been butchers to their sire :

All this divided *York* and *Lancaster*,
 Divided in their dire division.

Now let *Richmond* and *Elizabeth*,
 The true Succeeders of each royal House,
 By God's fair ordinance conjoin together !

* — and make use of it.]
 Some old books read, *make*
much of it : and therefore Mr.
Beobald reads so too : but very
 improperly. Without doubt *Shake-*
pear himself thus corrected it,
 O make use of it. Which signifies
 don't abuse it like the Tyrant
 you have destroyed ; whereas
 the other reading *make much of*
 it, signifies be fond of it ; a very
 ridiculous moral for the conclusion
 of the Play. WARB.

* All this divided *York* and
Lancaster,

Divided in their dire division.]
 I think the passage will be some-
 what improved by a slight alter-
 ration.

All that divided York and Lan-
caster,

Divided in their dire division,
O now let Richmond and Eli-
zabeth,

The true Succeeders of each royal
house,

By God's fair ordinance conjoin
together.

Let them unite all that *York* and
Lancaster divided.

And

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And let their heirs, God, if thy will be so,
Enrich the time to come with smooth-fac'd peace,
With smiling plenty, and fair prosp'rous days.
Abate the edge of traitors, gracious Lord !
That would reduce these bloody days again,
And make poor *England* weep in streams of blood.
Let them not live to taste this land's encrease,
That would with treason wound this fair land's peace.
Now civil wounds are stopp'd, Peace lives agen ;
That she may long live here, God say, Amen ! [*Exeunt*].

7 This is one of the most celebrated of our authour's performances ; yet I know not whether it has not happened to him as to others, to be praised most when praise is not most deserved.

That this play has scenes noble in themselves, and very well contrived to strike in the exhibition, cannot be denied. But some parts are trifling, others shocking, and some improbable.

I shall here subjoin two Dissertations, one by Dr. *Warburton*, and one by Mr. *Upton*, upon the *Vice*.

ACT III. SCENE I. Page 284.

THUS like the formal *Vice*, *INIQUITY*, &c.] As this corrupt reading in the common books hath occasioned our saying something of the barbarities of theatrical representations amongst us before the time of *Shakespear*, it may not be improper, for a better apprehension of this whole matter, to give the reader some general account of the rise and progress of the modern Stage.

The first form, in which the *Drama* appeared in the West of *Europe*, after the destruction of learned *Greece* and *Rome*, and that a calm of Dulness had finish'd upon letters what the rage of barbarism had begun, was that of the *Mysteries*. These were the fashionable and favourite diversions of all Ranks of people both in *France*, *Spain*, and *England*. In which last place, as we learn by *Stow*, they

were in use about the time of *Richard* the Second and *Henry* the Fourth. As to *Italy*, by what I can find, the first rudiments of their stage, with regard to the matter, were prophane subjects, and, with regard to the form, a corruption of the ancient *Mimes* and *Attellanes*: By which means they got sooner into the right road than their neighbours ; having had regular plays amongst them wrote as early as the fifteenth Century.

As to these *Mysteries*, they were, as their name speaks them, a representation of some scripture-story, *to the life* : as may be seen from the following passage in an old *French* history, intitled, *La Chronique de Metz composée par le curé de St. Eucbaire* ; which will give the reader no bad Idea of the surprizing absurdity of these strange representations.

“ L'an

3 Juillet (*says the*
ler) fut fait le
 on de N.S. en le
 ximiel. Et fut
 appelé Seigneur
 Neufchastel, le-
 ré de St. Victour
 quel fut presque
 roix, s'il ne fût
 & convient qu'un
 at mis en la Croix
 le Personnage du
 pour ce jour ;
 in le dit Curé de
 parfit la Resur-
 très hautement
 e ; & dura le dit
 -Et autre Prêtre
 dit Mrs. Jean de
 estoit Chapelain
 , fut Judas ; le-
 que mort en pen-
 cuer li faillit, &
 vement dependu
 oye. Et estoit la
 er tres-bien faite ;
 it & clooit, quand
 vouloient entrer
 avoit deux gros
 r, &c." Allud-
 d of representa-
 p *Harfnet*, in his
Papish Impostures,
 'The little Chil-
 ever so afraid of
 in the old plays,
 great gang teeth,
 and foul bottle
 ew in his *Survey*
 ives a fuller dem-
 in these words,
Miracle, in *Eng-*
le-Play, is a kind
 compiled in *Cor-*
 some Scripture-
 or representing it,
 a earthen Amphi-
 come open field,

" having the diameter of an
 " inclosed Playne, some 40 or
 " 50 foot. The country peo-
 " ple flock from all sides many
 " miles off, to hear and see it.
 " For they have therein Devils
 " and Devices, to delight as
 " well the eye as the ear. The
 " Players conne not their parts
 " without book, but are promp-
 " ted by one called the *Ordina-*
 " *ry*, who followeth at their
 " back with the book in his
 " hand, &c. &c." There was
 always a Droll or Buffoon in
 these *Mysteries*, to make the Peo-
 ple mirth with his sufferings or
 absurdities : and they could think
 of no better a personage to sus-
 tain this part than the *Devil* him-
 sel. Even in the *Mystery* of the
Passion mentioned above, it was
 contrived to make him ridicu-
 lous. Which circumstance is
 hinted at by *Shakspear* (who has
 frequent allusions to these things)
 in the *Taming of the Shrew*,
 where one of the Players asks for
 a little vinegar (as a *Property*) to
 make their Devil roar. For after
 the sponge with the Gall and
 Vinegar had been employed in
 the representation, they used to
 clap it to the nose of the Devil ;
 which making him roar, as if it
 had been *holy-water*, afforded in-
 finite diversion to the People. So
 that *Vinegar* in the old Farces,
 was always afterwards in use to
 torment their Devil. We have
 divers old *English* Proverbs, in
 which the Devil is represented
 as acting or suffering ridiculously
 and absurdly, which all arose
 from the part he bore in these
Mysteries, as in that, for in-
 stance, of—*Great cry and lit-*
tle wool, as the Devil said when

be sheared his hogs. For the sheep shearing of Nabal being represented in the *Mystery of David and Abigail*, and the Devil always attending Nabal, was made to imitate it by *shearing a Hog*. This kind of absurdity, as it is the properest to create laughter, was the subject of the *ridiculous*, in the ancient *mimes*, as we learn from these words of St. *Auglin*: *Ne faciamus ut Mimi solent, et optemus a Libero Aquam, à Lymphis Vinum* *.

These *Mysteries*, we see, were given in *France* at first, as well as in *England*, *sub dio*, and only in the *Provinces*. Afterwards we find them got into *Paris*, and a Company established in the *Hôtel de Bourgogne* to represent them. But good Letters and Religion beginning to make their way in the latter end of the reign of *Francis the First*, the stupidity and prophaneness of the *Mysteries* made the Courtiers and Clergy join their interest for their suppression. Accordingly, in the year 1541, the *Procureur General*, in the name of the King, presented a *Request* against the Company to the Parliament. The three principle branches of his charge against them were, that the representation of the *Old-Testament-Stories* inclined the people to *Judaism*; That the *New-Testament-Stories* encouraged *libertinism* and *infidelity*; and that both of them lessened the *Charities to the Poor*: It seems that this prosecution succeeded: for in 1548, the Parliament of *Paris* confirmed the company in the possession of the

Hôtel de Bourgogne, but interdicted the representation of the *Mysteries*. But in *Spain*, we find by *Cervantes*, that they continued much longer; and held their own, even after good Comedy came in amongst them: As appears from the excellent Critique of the Canon, in the fourth book, where he shows how the old extravagant *Romances* might be made the foundation of a regular *Epic* (which, he says, *tambien puede escribirse en prosa como en verso*; †) as the *Mystery-Plays* might be improved into artful Comedy. His words are, *Pues que si venimos à las Comedias divinas, que de milagros falsos fingen en ellas, que de cosas apocrisas, y mal entendidas, atribuyendo a un Santo los milagros de otro* ‡; which made them so fond of Miracles that they introduced them into *las Comedias humanas*, as he calls them. To return;

Upon this prohibition, the French poets turned themselves from Religious to Moral Farces. And in this we soon followed them: The public taste not suffering any greater alteration at first, tho' the *Italians* at this time afforded many just compositions for better Models. These Farces they called *Moralities*. *Pierre Gringore*, one of their old Poets, printed one of these *Moralities*, intitled *La Moralité de l'Homme obstiné*. The persons of the Drama are *l'Homme Obstiné*—*Punition Divine*—*Simonie*—*Hypocrisie*—and *Demerites-Communes*. The *Homme Obstiné* is the Atheist, and

* Civ. D. l. 4.

† B. 4. c. 20.

‡ Ib. 21

comes in blaspheming, and determined to persist in his impieties. Then *Punition Divine* appears sitting on a throne in the Air, and menacing the Atheist with Punishment. After this Scene, *Simonie*, *Hypocrisie*, and *Demerites Communes*, appear and play their parts. In conclusion, *Punition Divine* returns, preaches to them, upbraids them with their Crimes, and, in short, draws them all to repentance, all but the *Homme Obsiné*, who persists in his impiety, and is destroyed for an example. To this sad serious subject they added, tho' in a separate representation, a merry kind of Farce called *Sottis*, in which there was *un Payfan* [the Clown] under the name of *Sot Commun* [or Fool.] But we, who borrowed all these delicacies from the *French*, blended the *Moralité* and *Sottie* together; So that the *Payfan* or *Sot-commun*, the *Clown* or *Fool*, got a place in our serious *Moralities*: Whose business we may understand in the frequent allusions our *Shakespeare* makes to them: As in that fine speech in the beginning of the third Act of *Measure for Measure*, where we have this obscure passage,

—merely thou art Death's
Fool,
For him thou labour'st by thy
flight to shun,
And yet runn'st tow'rd him still.

For, in these *Moralities*, the Fool of the piece, in order to shew the inevitable approaches of Death (another of the *Dramatis Personæ*) is made to em-

ploy all his Stratagems to avoid him; which, as the matter is ordered, bring the Fool, at every turn, into the very Jaws of his enemy: So that a representation of these Scenes would afford a great deal of good mirth and morals mixed together. The very same thing is again alluded to in these lines of *Love's Labour lost*.

So Portent-like I would o'er-rule
his State,
That he should be my Fool, and
I his Fate.

Act iv. Sc. 2.

But the *French*, as we say, keeping these two sorts of Farces distinct, they became, in time, the Parents of *Tragedy* and *Comedy*; while we, by jumbling them together, begot in an evil hour, that mungrel Species, unknown to Nature and Antiquity, called *Tragi-Comedy*.

WARBURTON.

TO this, when Mr. *Upton's* Dissertation is subjoined, there will, perhaps, be no need of any other account of the *Vice*:

LIKE the old *Vice*.] The allusion here is to THE *Vice*, a droll character in our old plays, accoutred with a long coat, a cap with a pair of ass's ears, and a dagger of lath. *Shakespeare* alludes to his buffoon appearance in *Twelfth Night*, Act IV.

In a trice, like to the old *Vice*;
Who with dagger of lath, in
his rage, and his curst
Cries, av, ha! to the Devil.

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In the second part of K. Henry IV. Act III. Falstaff compares Shallow to VICE's dagger of lath. In Hamlet, Act III. Hamlet calls his uncle, *A VICE of Kings* : i. e. a ridiculous representation of majesty. These passages the editors have very rightly expounded. I will now mention some others, which seem to have escaped their notice, the allusions being not quite so obvious.

THE INIQUITY was often the VICE in our old Moralities ; and is introduced in B. Johnson's play call'd *the Devil's an ass* : and likewise mentioned in his Epigr. CXV.

*Being no vicious person, but the
Vice*

About the town.

*As old Iniquity, and in the
fit*

*Of miming, gets th'o' opinion of a
quit.*

But a passage cited from his play will make the following observations more plain. Act I. Pug asks the Devil "to lend him
" a VICE.

" Satan. What VICE ?

" What kind would thou have
it of ?

" Pug. Why, any Fraud,

" Or Covetousness, or Lady Va-
nity,

" Or old Iniquity : I'll call him
hither."

Thus the passage should be ordered.

" Pug. Why any : Fraud,

" Or Covetousness, or Lady Va-
nity,

" Or old INIQUITY.

" Satan. I'll call him hither.

" Enter Iniquity, the Vice.

" Ini. What is he calls upon
" me, and would seem to
" lack a VICE ?

" Ere his words be half
" spoken, I am with him
" in a trice."

And in his Staple of News, Act II. " Mirth. How like you the
" VICE i'the play ? *Expectation.*
" Which is he ? *Mirth.* Three
" or four, *old Covetousness*, the
" sordid *Penibey*, the *Money-*
" *bawd*, who is a flesh-bawd
" too, they say. *Tattle.* But
" here is never a *ficnd* to carry
" him away. Besides, he has
" never a wooden-dagger ! I'd
" not give a rush for a VICE,
" that has not a wooden-dagger
" to snap at every body he
" meets. *Mirth.* That was the
" old way, Gossip, when *Iniqui-*
" *ty* came in like *hokos pokos*,
" in a jugler's jerkin, &c." He
alludes to the VICE in the Al-
chymist, Act I. Sc. III.

" Subt. And on your stall, a
" puppet, with a VICE."

Some places of Shakespeare will from hence appear more easy : as in the 1st part of Henry IV. Act II. where Hal. humorously characterizing Falstaff, calls him, *That reverend VICE, that grey INIQUITY, that father RUFFIAN, that VANITY in years*, in allusion to this buffoon character. In K. Richard III. Act III.

Thus

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*like the formal Vice,
guity,
like two meanings in one
d.*

ry is the formal Vice.
rect the passage,

*like the formal wife An-
ity
like two meanings in one
d.*

correction is out of all criticism. In Hamlet, here is an allusion, still faint, to THE VICE; it is not obvious at first, before is to be introduced for explanation. This character was used to begin with the Devil; and several trite expressions, *be with you in a trice: boy, are you there, &c.* was great entertainment to the audience, to see an enemy so belaboured. In K. Henry V. Act I. characterizing Pistol, *ardolph and Nim had ten times valour than this roaring i'th' old play; every man pare his nails with a dagger.* Now Hamlet, when instructed by his father, is resolved to break effect of the discourse to Horatio; and to all this intention is to appear that of madman: when the oath of secrecy is the centinels, and the unseen calls out *swear*; speaks to it as THE VICE the Devil. *Ab, ha, boy, how so? Art thou there, P* Hamlet had a mind centinels should imagine was a shape that the

Devil had put on; and in Act III. he is somewhat of this opinion himself,

*The Spirit that I have seen
May be the Devil.*

This manner of speech therefore to the Devil was what all the audience were well acquainted with; and it takes off in some measure from the horror of the scene. Perhaps too the poet was willing to inculcate, that good humour is the best weapon to deal with the Devil. *True penny* either by way of irony, or literally from the Greek, *τέραςιον, veterator.* Which word the Scholiast on *Aristophanes' Clouds* ver. 447. explains, *τέραςιον, ὁ περιτετριμμένος ἐν τοῖς πρᾶγμασι, ὃν ἡμῖς ΤΡΥΠΑΝΟΝ καλοῦμεν.* Several have tried to find a derivation of THE VICE; if I should not hit on the right, I should only err with others. THE VICE is either a quality personalized as *ΒΙΗ* and *ΚΑΡΤΙΟΣ* in Hesiod and Aeschylus. *SIN* and *DEATH* in Milton; and indeed VICE itself is a person. B. XI. 517.

*And took HIS image whom they
serv'd, a brutish VICE.*

his image, i. e. a brutish VICE's image: the Vice Gluttony; not without some allusion to the vice of the old plays; but rather, I think, 'tis an abbreviation of *Vice-Devil*, as Vice-roy, Vice-doges, &c. and therefore properly called THE VICE. He makes very free with his master, like most other Vice-roys, or prime-ministers. So that he is the Devil's Vice, and prime minister; and 'tis this, that makes him so saucy. UFTON.

Mr.

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Mr. *Upton's* learning only supplies him with absurdities. His derivation of *vice* is too ridiculous to be answered.

I have nothing to add to the observations of these learned critics, but that some traces of

this antiquated exhibition are still retained in the rustick puppet plays, in which I have seen the *Devil* very lustily belaboured by *Punch*, whom I hold to be the legitimate successor of the old *Vice*.

THE
L I F E

O F

H E N R Y V I I I .

OL. V

B b



SECRET

24

Dramatis Personæ.

Henry the Eighth.

Cardinal Wolsey.

Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury.

John of Norfolk.

John of Buckingham.

John of Suffolk.

John of Surrey.

John Chamberlain.

John Campeius, the Pope's Legate.

John de Selve, Ambassador from the Emperor Charles the Fifth.

Thomas Audley, Lord Keeper.

John of Winchester, Bishop of Winchester.

John of Lincoln.

John of Bergavenny.

John of Sands.

John of Guildford.

Thomas Lovell.

Anthony Denny.

Thomas Vaux.

William Sands.

John, Servant to Wolsey.

John, Gentleman-Usher to Queen Catharine.

John, Gentlemen.

John Butts, Physician to the King.

John, King at Arms.

John, Secretary to the Duke of Buckingham.

John.

John at Arms.

John, Keeper of the Council-Chamber.

John and his Man.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Queen Catharine.

Anne Bullen.

An old Lady, Friend to Anne Bullen.

Patience, Woman to Queen Catharine.

Several Lords and Ladies in the Dumb Shows. Women attending upon the Queen; Spirits, which appear to her. Scribes, Officers, Guards, and other Attendants.

The SCENE lies mostly in *London* and *Westminster*; once, at *Kimbolton*.

There is no enumeration of the persons in the old Edition: such as the late editions have exhibited was added by *Rowe*.

Of this play there is no edition before that of 1623, in folio.

R O L O G U E.

ome no more to make you laugh; things now,
 bat bear a weighty and a serious brow,
 bigb, and working, full of state and woe;
 noble scenes, as draw the eye to flow,
 hall present. Those, that can pity, here
 if they think it well, let fall a tear;
 subject will deserve it. Such, as give,
 money out of hope they may believe,
 here find truth too. Those, that come to see
 a show or two, and so agree,
 Play may pass, if they be still and willing,
 undertake, may see away their shilling
 by in two short hours. Only they,
 come to bear a merry, bawdy play;
 ise of targets; ' or to see a fellow
 long motley coat, guarded with yellow;
 be deceiv'd: for, gentle bearers, know,
 ink our chosen truth with ² such a show
 ol and fight is, besides forfeiting
 own brains, and ³ th' opinion that we bring

— or to see a Fellow
 a long motley Coat.] Allud-
 to the Fools and Buffoons,
 luded for the generality in
 lays a little before our Au-
 Time: and of whom he has
 a small Taste in his own.

THEOBALD.

— such a show
 fool and fight is.] This is
 he only passage in which
 speare has discovered his
 iction of the impropriety of
 is represented on the stage.
 new that five or six men
 swords, give a very unsatisf-
 ry, idea of an army, and
 fore, without much care to
 e his former practice, he al-

lows that a theatrical fight would
 destroy all opinion of truth, and
 leave him never an understanding
 friend. *Magnis ingeniis et multa
 nihilominus babituris simplex con-
 venit erroris confessio.* Yet I
 know not whether the corona-
 tion shewn in this play may not
 be liable to all that can be ob-
 jected against a battle.

³ — th' opinion that we bring
 To make that only true we now
 intend.] These lines I do
 not understand, and suspect them
 of corruption. I believe we
 may better read thus:

— th' opinion which we bring
 Or make; that only truth we
 now intend,

P R O L O G U E.

*To make that only true, we now intend,
Will leave us ne'er an understanding friend.
Therefore, for goodness' sake, as you are known
The first and happiest bearers of the town,
Be sad, as we would make ye. * Think ye see
The very persons of our noble story,
As they were living; think, you see them great,
And follow'd with the gen'ral throng, and swear
Of thousand friends; Then, in a moment, see
How soon this mightiness meets misery!
And, if you can be merry then, I'll say,
A man may weep upon his wedding day.*

* ———— *Think ye see
The very Persons of our noble
Story,]* Why the Rhyme
should have been interrupted
here, when it was so easily to be
supplied, I cannot conceive. It
can only be accounted for from
the Negligence of the Press, or

the Transcribers; and therefore
I have made no Scruple to re-
place it thus; *Think before ye.*

THEOBALD.

This is specious, but the laxity
of the versification in this pro-
logue, and in the following epi-
logue, makes it not necessary.

The LIFE of
King H E N R Y VIII.

A C T I. S C E N E I.

An Antechamber in the Palace.

*Enter the Duke of Norfolk, at one door; at the other
the Duke of Buckingham, and the Lord Aber-
gavenny.*

BUCKINGHAM.

GOOD morrow, and well met. How have
you done,
Since last we saw in *France*?

Nor. I thank your Grace,
Healthful, and ever since * a fresh admirer
Of what I saw there.

Buck. An untimely ague
Staid me a prisoner in my chamber, when
Those suns of glory, those two lights of men,
Met in the vale of *Arde*.

Nor. 'Twixt *Guynes* and *Arde* :
I was then present, saw 'em salute on horse-back,
Beheld them when they lighted, how they clung
In their embracement, as they grew together ;

* ——— *à fresh admirer.*] An still feeling the impression as if
admirer untired ; an admirer it were hourly renewed.

Which had they, what four thron'd ones could have weigh'd

Such a compounded one ?

Buck. All the whole time,
I was my chamber's prisoner.

Nor. Then you lost
The view of earthly glory ; men might say,
¹ 'Till this time Pomp was single, but now marry'd
To one above itself. ² Each following day
Became the next day's master, till the last
Made former wonders, it's. To day the *French*,
³ All clinquant, all in gold, like heathen gods,
Shone down the *English* ; and to-morrow they
Made *Britain*, *India*, every man that stood,
Shew'd like a mine. Their dwarfish pages were
As Cherubins, all gilt ; the Madams too,
Not used to toil, did almost sweat to bear
The pride upon them ; that their very labour
Was to them as a painting. Now this mask
Was cry'd, incomparable ; and th'ensuing night
Made it a fool and beggar. The two Kings,
Equal in lustre, were now best, now worst,

¹ *Till this Time Pomp was single, but now marry'd To one above itself—*] The thought is odd and whimsical ; and obscure enough to need an explanation — 'Till this time (says the speaker) Pomp led a single life, as not finding a husband able to support her according to her dignity : but she has now got one in Henry VIII. who could support her even above her condition of finery.

WARBURTON.

Dr. Warburton has here discovered more beauty than the author intended, who meant only to say in a noisy periphrase, that *pomp was increased on this occasion* so more than twice as

much as it had ever been before. Pomp is no more married to the *English* than to the *French* king, for to neither is any preference given by the speaker. Pomp is only married to pomp, but the new pomp is greater than the old.

² ———— *Each following day Became the next day's master, &c.*] *Dies diem docet.* Every day learned something from the preceding, till the concluding day collected all the splendour of all the former shews.

³ *All clinquant, all glittering, all shining.* Clarendon uses this word in his description of the *Spanish Juego de Toros.*

As

ice did present them ; ⁴ him in eye,
in praise ; and being present both,
d, they saw but one ; and no discerners
ag his tongue in censure. When these suns,
ey phrase 'em, by their heralds challeng'd
e spirits to arms, they did perform
hought's compass ; that old fabulous story,
w seen possible enough, got credit ;
wis was believ'd,

Oh, you go far.

As I belong to worship, and affect
r, honesty, ⁷ the tract of every thing
y a good discourser lose some life,
action's self was tongue to. ⁸ All was royal,
isposing of it ; nought rebell'd,
ve each thing view ; ⁹ The office did
y his full function.

Who did guide,

who set the body and the limbs

great sport together, as you guess ?

— *Him in eye,
in praise ;*] So Dry-

— *Two chiefs
d as each seem'd wor-
when alone.*

*— wag his tongue in cen-
—*] *Censure* for den-
n, of which had the
pearance.

WARBURTON.
*old romantic legend of
of Southampton.*]
is (or *Beauvois*) a Sax-
or his Prowess, created
the Conqueror Earl
pton : Of whom, *Cam-
Britannia.*

THEOBALD.
*the tract of every thing,
the course of these tri-*

umphs and pleasures, however
well related, must lose in the
description part of that spirit
and energy which were expressed
in the real action.

⁸ — *All was royal, &c.*]
This speech was given in all the
editions to *Buckingham* ; but im-
properly. For he wanted infor-
mation, having kept his cham-
ber during the solemnity. I
have therefore given it to *Nor-
folk.* WARBURTON.

⁹ — *The office did
Distinctly his full function.*]
The commission for regulating
this festivity was well executed,
and gave exactly to every parti-
cular person and action the pro-
per place.

Nor. One, certes, that premises no ¹ element
In such a business.

Buck. Pray you, who, my Lord ?

Nor. All this was order'd by the good discretion
Of the right rev'rend Cardinal of York.

Buck. The devil speed him ! no man's pye is freed
From his ambitious finger. What had he
To do in these ² fierce vanities ? I wonder,
³ That such a keech can with his very bulk
Take up the rays o'th'beneficial sun,
And keep it from the earth.

Nor. Yet, surely, Sir,
There's in him stuff that puts him to these ends,
For being not propt by ancestry, whose grace
Chalks successors their way ; nor call'd upon
For high feats done to th' Crown ; neither ally'd
To eminent assistants ; but spider-like
⁴ Out of his self drawing web ;—this gives us note,
The force of his own merit makes his way ;
⁵ A gift that heaven gives for him, which buys

¹ *Element.*] No initiation, no previous practices. *Elements* are first principles of things, or rudiments of knowledge. The word is here applied not without a *catachresis*, to a person.

² *Fierce vanities.*] *Fierce* is here, I think, used like the French *fier* for *proud*, unless we suppose an allusion to the mimical ferocity of the combatants in the tilt.

³ *That such a keech*——] Ketch, from the Italian *Caicchio*, signifying a tub, barrel, or hoghead. Skinner. POPE.

The word in the folio is *keech*, which not being understood, is changed into *ketch*.

A *keech* is a solid lump or mass. A cake of wax or tallow formed

in a mould is called yet in some places a *keech*.

⁴ *Out of his self drawing web.*] Thus it stands in the first edition. The later Editors, by injudicious correction, have printed,

Out of his self-drawn web.

⁵ *A gift that heaven gives for him, which buys*

A place next to the King.] It is evident a word or two in the sentence is misplaced, and that we should read,

A gift that heaven gives ; which buys for him

A place next to the King——

WARBURTON.

It is full as likely that *Shakespeare* wrote, *gives to him*, which will save any greater alteration.

A place next to the King.

Aber. I cannot tell

What heav'n hath given him ; let some graver eye
Pierce into that : but I can see his pride
Peep through each part of him ; whence has he that ?
If not from hell, the devil is a niggard,
Or has giv'n all before, and he begins
A new hell in himself.

Buck. Why the devil,

Upon this *French* Going out took he upon him,
Without the privy o'th' King, r'appoint
Who should attend him ? he makes up⁶ the file
Of all the gentry ; for the most part such,
To whom as great a charge as little honour
He meant to lay upon ; And his own letter,
The honourable board of * council out,
Must fetch in him he papers.

Aber. I do know

Kinsmen of mine, three at the least, that have
By this so sicken'd their estates, that never
They shall abound as formerly.

Buck. O, many

Have broke their backs with laying manours on 'em
For this great journey. ⁸ What did this vanity
But minister communication of
A most poor issue ?

Nor. Grievingly, I think,

The peace between the *French* and us not values
The cost, that did conclude it.

⁶ —the file, that is, the list.

^{*} —council out,] Council
not then sitting.

⁷ Must fetch in him he papers.]
He papers, a verb ; his own letter,
by his own single authority,
and without the concurrence of
the council, must fetch in him

whom he papers down.—I don't
understand it, unless this be the
meaning.

POPE.

⁸ —What did this vanity
But —] What effect has this
pompous shew, but the produc-
tion of a wretched conclusion.

Buck. ⁹ Every man,
After the hideous storm that follow'd, was
A thing inspir'd; and not consulting, broke
Into a general prophecy, that this tempest,
Dashing the garment of this peace, aboded
The sudden breach on't.

Nor. Which is budded out;
For *France* hath flaw'd the league, and hath attach'd
Our merchants' goods at *Bourdeaux*.

Aber. Is it therefore
⁹ Th' ambassador is silenc'd?

Nor. Marry, is't.

Aber. ¹ A proper title of a peace, and purchas'd
At a superfluous rate!

Buck. Why, all this business
Our rev'rend Cardinal carried.

Nor. Like it your Grace,
The state takes notice of the private difference
Betwixt you and the Cardinal. I advise you,
And take it from a heart, that wishes tow'rds you
Honour and plenteous safety, that you read
The Cardinal's malice and his potency
Together; to consider further, that
What his high hatred would effect, wants not
A minister in his pow'r. You know his nature,

¹ —Every man,
After the hideous storm that follow'd; &c.] His author,
Hall, says, *Monday, 18th day of June, there blew such storms of wind and weather that marvel was to hear; for which hideous tempest some said it was a very prognostication of trouble and hatred to come between princes.* In *Henry VIII.* p. 80.

WARBURTON.

⁶ *Th' ambassador is silenc'd?*] *Silenc'd* for recall'd. This be-

ing proper to be said of an Orator; and an ambassador or public minister being called an Orator, he applies *silenc'd* to ambassador.

WARBURTON.

I understand it rather of the French ambassadour residing in England, who by being refused an audience, may without any remote meaning, be said to be *silenc'd*.

² *A proper title of a peace.*] A fine name of a peace. Ironically.

That he's revengeful ; and, I know, his sword
Hath a sharp edge, its long, and, 't may be said,
It reaches far, and where 'twill not extend,
Thither he darts it. Bosom up my counsel,
You'll find it wholesome. Lo, where* comes that rock,
That I advise your shunning.

S C E N E II.

Enter Cardinal Wolsey, the purse borne before him, certain of the guard, and two secretaries with papers ; the Cardinal in his passage fixeth his eye on Buckingham, and Buckingham on him, both full of disdain.

Wol. The Duke of *Buckingham's* surveyor ? ha ?
Where's his examination ?

Secr. Here, so please you.

Wol. Is he in person ready ?

Secr. Ay, an't please your Grace.

Wol. Well, we shall then know more ;
And *Buckingham* shall lessen this big look.

[Exeunt Cardinal and his train.]

Buck. This butcher's cur is venom-mouthed, and 'I
Have not the pow'r to muzzle him ; therefore best
Not wake him in his slumber. ³ A beggar's book
Out-worths a noble's blood.

Nor. What, are you chaf'd ?
Ask God for temp'rance ; that's th' appliance only,
Which your disease requires.

Buck. I read in's look
Matter against me, and his eye revil'd
Me as his abject object ; at this instant

* —comes that rock.] To make
the rock come is not very just.

³ ————— A beggar's book
Out-worths a noble's blood.]
That is the literary qualifica-
tions of a bookish beggar are

more prized than the high de-
scend of hereditary greatness.
This is a contemptuous excla-
mation very naturally put into
the mouth of one of the antient,
unlettered, martial nobility.

* He bores me with some trick. He's gone to th' King;
I'll follow and out-stare him.

Nor. Stay, my Lord ;
And let your reason with your choler question
What 'tis you go about. To climb steep hills,
Requires slow pace at first. Anger is like
A full-hot horse, who being allow'd his way,
Self-mettle tires him. Not a man in *England*
Can advise me, like you ; be to yourself,
As you would to your friend.

Buck. I'll to the King,
And ' from a mouth of honour quite cry down
This *Ipswich* fellow's insolence ; or proclaim,
There's difference in no persons.

Nor. Be advis'd ;
Heat not a furnace for your foe so hot,
That it do singe yourself. We may out-run
By violent swiftness that which we run at,
And lose by over-running ; know you not,
The fire that mounts the liquor 'till't run o'er,
Seeming t'augment it, wastes it ? be advis'd ;
I say again, there is no *English* Soul
More stronger to direct you than yourself,
If with the sap of reason you would quench,
Or but allay, the fire of passion.

Buck. Sir,
I'm thankful to you, and I'll go along
By your prescription ; but this top proud fellow,
(Whom from the flow of gall I name not, but
From ⁶ sincere motions) by intelligence

* *He bores me with some trick.*] He stabs or wounds me by some artifice or fiction.

⁵ — *From a mouth of honour.*] I will crush this baseborn fellow, by the due influence of my rank, or say that all distinction of per-

sons is at an end.

⁶ — *Sincere motions.*] Honest indignation ; warmth of integrity. Perhaps name not, should be blame not.

Whom from the flow of gall I blame not.

KING HENRY VIII.

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proofs as clear as founts in *Jaly* when
 ee each grain of gravel, I do know
 e corrupt and treasonous.

r. Say not, treasonous.

ck. To th' King I'll say't, and make my vouch as
 strong

more of rock.—Attend. This holy fox,
 olf, or both, for he is equal rav'nous,
 e is subtile; and as prone to mischief,
 ole to perform't, ' his mind and place
 ting one another, yea reciprocally,
 to shew his pomp, as well in *France*
 ere at home, ' suggests the King our master
 his last costly treaty, th' interview,
 swallow'd so much treasure, and like a glass
 break i'th' rinsing.

r. 'Faith, and so it did.

ck. Pray, give me favour, Sir.—This cunning
 Cardinal

articles o'th' combination drew,
 himself pleas'd; and they were ratify'd.
 e cry'd, *let it be*—to as much end,
 ive a crutch to th' dead. But our Court Cardinal
 done this, and 'tis well; for worthy *Wolsey*,
 cannot err, he did it. Now this follows,
 th, as I take it, is a kind of puppy
 r' old dam, treason; *Charles* the Emperor,
 er pretence to see the Queen his aunt,
 'twas indeed his colour, but he came
 whisper *Wolsey*) here makes a visitation:
 ears were, that the interview betwixt
 nd and *France* might through their amity

—his mind and place
 ting one another;] This is
 satirical. His mind he re-
 as highly corrupt; and
 supposes the contagion of
 ce of first minister as ad-

ding an infection to it.

WARBURTON.

* —[suggests the King our
 master] suggests, for excites.

WARBURTON.

Breed

384 KING HENRY VIII.

Breed him some prejudice ; for from this league
Peep'd harms, that menaced him. He privily
Deals with our Cardinal, and, as I trow,
Which I do well, for I am sure, the Emperor
Paid ere he promis'd, whereby his suit was granted,
Ere it was ask'd. But when the way was made,
And pay'd with gold ; the Emp'ror thus desir'd,
That he would please to alter the King's course,
And break the foresaid peace. Let the King know,
As soon he shall by me, that thus the Cardinal
Does buy and sell his honour as he pleases,
And for his own advantage.

Nor. I am sorry
To hear this of him ; and could wish, you were
Something mistaken in't.

Buck. No, not a syllable :
I do pronounce him in that very shape
He shall appear in proof.

SCENE III.

*Enter Brandon, a Serjeant at arms before him, and two
or three of the guard.*

Bran. Your office, Serjeant ; execute it.

Serj. Sir,
My Lord the Duke of *Buckingham*, and Earl
Of *Hertford*, *Stafford*, and *Northampton*, I
Arrest thee of high treason, in the name
Of our most Sov'reign King.

Buck. Lo you, my Lord,
The net has fall'n upon me ; I shall perish
Under device and practice.

Bran. ⁹ I am sorry

⁹ *I am sorry*
To see you tu'en from liberty to
look on
The business present.] I am sor-

ry that I am obliged to be pre-
sent and an eye-witness of your
loss of liberty.

To

you ta'en from liberty, to look on
business present. 'Tis his Highness pleasure
shall to th' Tower.

It will help me nothing
to dead mine innocence; for that dye is on me,
it makes my whit'ft part black. The will of heav'n
be in this and all things. I obey.

Lord *Abergamy*, fare ye well.

Nay, he must bear you company. The
King [To *Abergamy*]
is'd you shall to th' Tower, till you know
he determines further.

As the Duke said,
will of heav'n be done, and the King's pleasure
obey'd.

Here is a warrant from
King, to attach Lord *Montague*; and the bodica
the Duke's Confessor, *John de la Court*,
Gilbert Peck his chancellor.

So, so;
are the limbs o'th' plot. No more, I hope?

A monk o'th' *Chartreux*.

* *Nicholas Hopkins*.

He.

My surveyor is false, the o'er great Cardinal
shew'd him gold; * my life is spann'd already.

Gilbert Peck, his Coun-
So the old Copies have
I, from the Authorities
and *Holinghead*, chang'd
chancellor. And our Poet
in the Beginning of the
Act, vouches for this Cor-

which; appear'd against him
Surveyor,
Gilbert Peck his Chancel-
er.

THE BALD.
Michael Hopkins?] So all
Copies had it; and so

L. V.

Mr. *Rowe* and Mr. *Pope* from
them. But here again by the
help of the *Chronicles*, I have
given the true Reading. THEOB.

* — my life is spann'd al-
ready.] To *span* is to gripe
or inclose in the hand; to *span* is
also to measure by the palm and
the fingers. The meaning, there-
fore, may either be, that bold is
taken of my life, my life is in the
gripe of my enemies; or, that my
time is measured, the length of my
life is now determined.

C c

³ I am the shadow of poor *Buckingham*,
 Whose figure ev'n this instant cloud puts on,
 By dark'ning my clear sun.—My Lord, farewell.

[*Exeunt.*]

SCENE IV.

Changes to the Council-Chamber.

Cornet. Enter King Henry, leaning on the Cardinal's
 shoulder; the Nobles, and Sir Thomas Lovell; the
 Cardinal places himself under the King's feet, on his
 right-side.

King. MY life itself, ⁴ and the best heart of it,
 Thanks you for this great care. ⁵ I stood
 i'th' level

Of a full-charge'd confed'racy, and give thanks
 To you that choak'd it. Let be call'd before us

³ *I am the shadow of poor
 Buckingham,*

*Whose figure ev'n this instant
 cloud puts on,*

By dark'ning my clear sun.]

These lines have puzzled all the
 Editors. Does the reader under-
 stand them? If not, they are
 inexplicable, and I must be left, I
 fear, to some happier sagacity.
 If the usage of our authour's
 time could allow *figure* to be tak-
 en, as now, for *dignity* or *import-
 tance*, we might read,

*Whose figure ev'n this instant
 cloud puts out.*

But I cannot please myself with
 any conjecture.

⁴ ——— and the best heart of
 it.] The expression is mon-
 strous. The heart is supposed
 the seat of life: But, as if he
 had many lives, and to each of

them, a heart, he says, *his best
 heart*. A way of speaking that
 would have become a cat rather
 than a King. WARBURTON.

This expression is not more
 monstrous than many others.
 Heart is not here taken for the
 great organ of circulation and
 life, but, in a common and po-
 pular sense, for the most valuable
 or precious part. Our authour,
 in *Hamlet*, mentions the *heart of
 heart*. Exhausted and effect-
 ground is said by the farmer to
 be out of heart. The hard and
 inner part of the oak is called
heart of oak.

⁵ ——— Stood i'th' level

Of a full-charge'd confed'racy.]
 To stand in the level of a gun
 is to stand in a line with its
 mouth, so as to be hit by the shot.

That

That gentleman of *Buckingham's*; in person
I'll hear him his confessions justify,
And point by point the treasons of his master
He shall again relate.

A noise within, crying, Room for the Queen. Enter the Queen, ushered by the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk: she kneels. The King riseth from his state, takes her up, kisses and placeth her by him.

Queen. Nay, we must longer kneel; I am a suitor.

King. Arise, and take your place by us; half your
suit

Never name to us, you have half our power,
The other moiety, ere you ask, is given;
Repeat your will, and take it.

Queen. Thank your Majesty.

—That you would love yourself, and in that love
Not unconsider'd leave your honour, nor
The dignity of your office, is the point
Of my petition.

King. Lady mine, proceed.

Queen. I am solicited, not by a few,
And those of true condition, that your subjects
Are in great grievance. There have been commissions
Sent down among 'em, which have flaw'd the heart
Of all their loyalties; wherein although, [*To Wolsey.*
My good Lord Cardinal, they vent reproaches
Most bitterly on you, as putter on
Of these exactions; yet the King our master,
Whose honour heav'n shield from soil, ev'n he 'scapes
not

Language unmannerly; yea such, which breaks
The sides of loyalty, and almost appears
In loud rebellion.

Nor. Not almost appears,
It doth appear; for, upon these taxations,
The clothiers all, not able to maintain

'The many to them 'longing, have put off
 The spinsters, carders, fullers, weavers; who,
 Unfit for other life, compell'd by hunger
 ' And lack of other means, in desp'rate manner
 Daring th' event to th' teeth, are all in uproar,
 ' And danger serves among them.

King. Taxation?

Wherein? and what taxation? My Lord Cardinal,
 You, that are blam'd for it alike with us,
 Know you of this taxation?

Wol. Please you, Sir,

I know but of a single part in aught
 Pertains to th' state, ' and front but in that file
 Where others tell steps with me.

Queen. No, my Lord.

You know no more than others, but you frame

⁶ *The many to them 'longing.*] The *many* is the *mainy*, the train, the people. *Dryden* is, perhaps, the last that used this word.

The Kings before their many rode.

⁷ *And lack of other means, —*] *Means* does not signify methods of livelihood, for that was said immediately before — *unfit for other life*; but it signifies, *necessaries—compelled*, says the speaker, *for want of bread and other necessities*. But the poet using, for the thing, [*want of bread*] the effect of it, [*hunger*] the passage is become doubly obscure; first, by using a term in a licentious sense, and then by putting it to a vicious construction. The not apprehending that this is one of the distinguishing peculiarities in *Shakespeare's* style, has been the occasion of so much ridiculous correction of him.

WARBURTON.

I have inserted this note rather because it seems to have been the writer's favourite, than because it is of much value. It explains what no reader has found difficult, and, I think, explains it wrong.

⁸ *And Danger serves among them.*] Could one easily believe, that a writer, who had, but immediately before, sunk so low in his expression, should here rise again to a height so truly sublime? where, by the noblest stretch of fancy, *Danger* is personalized as serving in the rebel army, and shaking the established government.

WARBURTON.

⁹ — *front but in that file.*] I am but *primus inter pares*. I am but first in the row of confellors.

Things

KING HENRY VIII. 389

gs that are known alike; which are not wholesome
 oie which would not know them, and yet must
 ce be their acquaintance. These exactions,
 eof my Sovereign would have note, they are
 pestilent to th'hearing; and, to bear 'em,
 ack is sacrifice to th' load. They say,
 are devis'd by you, or else you suffer
 ard an exclamation.

g. Still, exaction!
 nature of it? In what kind let's know
 s exaction?

een. I am much too vent'rous
 npting of your patience, but am bolden'd
 r your promis'd pardon. The subjects' grief
 is through commissions, which compel from each
 sixth part of his substance, to be levy'd
 out delay; and the pretence for this
 m'd, your wars in *France*. This makes bold
 mouths;

gues spit their duties out, and cold hearts freeze
 giance in them; all their curses now
 where their pray'rs did; and its come to pass,
 tractable obedience is a slave
 ach incens'd will. I would, your Highness
 ld give it quick consideration, for
 ere is no primer business,

ng, By my life,
 is against our pleasure.

n the old edition;

re is no primer BUSINESS.]
 Queen is here complaining
 e suffering of the Com-
 ; which, she suspects, a-
 rom the abuse of power in
 great men. But she is ve-
 rserved in speaking her
 ights concerning the quality

We may be assured then,
 she did not, in conclusion

call it the highest *baseness*; but
 rather made use of a word that
 could not offend the Cardinal,
 and yet would incline the King
 to give it a speedy hearing. I
 read therefore,

There is no primer BUSINESS.
i. e. no matter of state that more
 earnestly presses a dispatch.

WARBURTON.

Wol. And for me,
 I have no further gone in this, than by
 A single voice; and that not past me, but
 By learned approbation of the judges.
 If I'm traduc'd by tongues, which neither know
 My faculties, nor person; yet will be
 The chronicles of my doing; let me say,
 'Tis but the fate of place, and the rough brake
 That virtue must go through. We must not stint
 Our necessary actions, in the fear
 * To cope malicious censurers; which ever,
 As rav'nous fishes do a vessel follow
 That is new trimm'd; but benefit no further
 Than vainly longing. What we oft do best,
 † By sick interpreters, or weak ones, is
 Not ours, or not allow'd; ‡ what worst, as oft
 Hitting a grosser quality, is cry'd up
 For our best act. If we stand still, in fear
 Our motion will be mock'd or carp'd at,
 We should take root here where we sit, or sit
 State-statues only.

King. Things done well,
 And with a care, exempt themselves from fear;
 Things done without example, in their issue
 Are to be fear'd. Have you a precedent
 Of this commission? I believe, not any.
 We must not rend our subjects from our laws,
 And stick them in our will. Sixth part of each!
 A trembling contribution!—why, we take

* To cope; to engage with; to encounter. The word is still used in some counties.

† By sick, &c.] The old edition reads,

By sick interpreters (once weak ones) is

Not ours. —

I do not know that the old read-

ing ought to be restored, but it may be noted.

‡ —What worst, as oft Hitting a grosser quality.] The worst actions of great men are commended by the vulgar, as more accommodated to the grossness of their notions.

KING HENRY VIII. 392

ev'ry tree, lop, bark, and part o'th' timber;
ough we leave it with a root, thus hackt,
r will drink the sap. To ev'ry county,
this is question'd, send our letters, with
ardon to each man that has deny'd
rce of this commission. Pray, look to't;
t to your care.

A word with you. *[To the Secretary.]*
ere be letters writ to ev'ry shire,
e King's grace and pardon. The griev'd
commons
r conceive of me, let it be nois'd,
through our intercession, this revokement
ardon comes; I shall anon advise you
r in the proceeding. *[Exit Secretary.]*

S C E N E V.

Enter Surveyor.

en. I'm forry, that the Duke of *Backingham*
in your displeasure.
It grieves many.
entleman is learn'd, a most rare speaker,
ture none more bound; his training such,
he may furnish and instruct great teachers,
never seek for aid ⁶ out of himself.
e, when ⁷ noble benefits shall prove
well dispos'd, the mind growing once corrupt,
turn to vicious forms, ten times more ugly
ever they were fair. ⁸ This man so compleat,
Who

*in every tree, lop, bark,
d part o' th' timber:]* Lop
stantive, and signifies the
r. **WARBURTON.**
—out of himself.] Be-
he treasures of his own

⁷ Noble benefits—not well dis-
posed.] Great gifts of nature and
education, not joined with good
dispositions.

⁸ —This man so compleat,
Who was enroll'd 'mongst wen-
ders, and when we,

Who was enroll'd 'mongst wonders, and when we
 Almost with list'ning ravish'd, could not find
 His hour of speech, a minute; he, my lady,
 Hath into monstrous habits put the graces
 That once were his; and is become as black,
 As if besmear'd in hell. Sit by us, you shall hear
 (This was his gentleman in trust) of him
 Things to strike honour sad. Bid him recount
 The fore-recited practices, whereof
 We cannot feel too little, hear too much.

Wol. Stand forth, and with bold spirit relate, what you,
 Most like a careful subject, have collected
 Out of the Duke of *Buckingham*.

King. Speak freely:

Surv. First; it was usual with him, ev'ry day
 It would infect his speech, that if the King
 Should without issue die, he'd carry it so
 To make the scepter his. These very words
 I've heard him utter to his son-in-law,
 Lord *Aberga'my*, to whom by oath he menac'd
 Revenge upon the Cardinal.

Wol. Please your Highness, note
 9 This dangerous conception in this point.

*Almost with list'ning ravish'd,
 could not find*

*His hour of speech, a minute;
 he, my lady, &c.]* This
 sentence is broken and con-
 fused, though, with the allow-
 ances always to be made to
 our authour, it may be under-
 stood. Yet it may be proper to
 examine the old edition, which
 gives it thus:

— and when we,
Almost with ravish'd list'ning—
 I know not whether we may not
 read,

— this man
*Who was enroll'd with wonder,
 and whom we*

*Almost were ravish'd list'ning,
 could not find*

His hour of speech a minute.
To listen a man, for, to hearken
 to him, is commonly used by our
 authour. So by *Milton*,

I listen'd them a while.
 I do not rate my conjecture at
 much; but as the common read-
 ing is without authority, some-
 thing may be tried. Perhaps
 the passage is best as it was ori-
 ginally published.

9 *This dangerous conception in
 this point.]* Note this parti-
 cular part of this dangerous de-
 sign,

ended by his wish to your high person,
 ill is most malignant, and it stretches
 d you to your friends.

en. My learn'd Lord Cardinal,
 r all with charity.

r. Speak on.

grounded he his title to the crown,
 our fail? To this point hast thou heard him
 r time speak aught?

r. He was brought to this,
 vain prophesy of *Nicholas Hopkins*,

r. What was that *Hopkins*?

r. Sir; a *Chartreux* Friar,
 onfessor, who fed him every minute
 words of Sov'reignty.

r. How know'st thou this?

r. Not long before your highness sped to *France*,
 Duke being at the *Rose*, within the parish
Wrence Poultney, did of me demand
 was the speech among the *Londoners*
 ming the *French* journey? I reply'd,
 ear'd, the *French* would prove perfidious,

: King's danger. Presently the Duke
 'twas the fear, indeed; and that he doubted,

ld prove the verity of certain words
 by a holy Monk; that oft, says he,

sent to me, wishing me to permit

le la Court, my Chaplain, a choice hour

former editions :

vain Prophecy of Nicho-
 [TON.] We heard be-
 on *Brandon*, of one *Ni-*
Hopkins; and now his
 s changed into *Henton*;
Brandon and the Surveyor
 be in two Stories. There
 ever, but one and the
 rson meant, *Hopkins*; as
 stored it in the Text, for
 ity's Sake: yet will it

not be any Difficulty to account
 for the other Name, when we
 come to consider, that he was a
 Monk of the Convent, call'd
Henton, near *Bristol*. So both
Hall and *Holing shed* acquaint us.
 And he might, according to the
 Custom of those Times, be cal-
 led *Nicholas* of *Henton*, from the
 Place; as *Hopkins*, from his Fa-
 mily.

THEOBALD.

To

To hear from him a matter of some moment;
Whom after * under the Confession's seal
He solemnly had sworn, that, what he spoke,
My Chaplain to no creature living, but
To me, should utter; with demure confidence,
Thus pausingly ensu'd;—Neither the King, nor's heirs
(Tell you the Duke) shall prosper; bid him strive
To gain the love o' th' commonalty; the Duke
Shall govern *England*. —

Queen. If I know you well,
You were the Duke's Surveyor, and lost your office
On the complaint o' th' tenants. Take good heed,
You charge not in your spleen a noble person,
And spoil your nobler soul. I say, take heed;
Yes, heartily I beseech you.

King. Let him on.
—Go forward.

Surv. On my soul, I'll speak but truth.
I told my Lord the Duke, by th' devil's illusions
The Monk might be deceiv'd; and that 'twas dang'rous
For him to ruminate on this, until
It forg'd him some design, which, being believ'd,
It was much like to do: he answer'd, *Tush,*
It can do me no damage. Adding further,
That had the King in his last sickness fail'd,
The Cardinal's and Sir *Thomas Lovell's* heads
Should have gone off.

* — under the Commission's
Seal

He solemnly had sworn.] So
all the Editions down from the
very Beginning. But, what Com-
mission's Seal? That is a Ques-
tion, I dare say, none of our di-
ligent Editors ever ask'd them-
selves. The Text must be re-
stored, as I have corrected it;
and honest *Holinghead*, from

whom our Author took the Sub-
stance of this Passage, may be
call'd in as a Testimony:—
“The Duke in Talk told the
“Monk, that he had done very
“well to bind his Chaplain,
“*John de la Court*, under the
“Seal of Confession, to keep se-
“cret such Matter.” *Vid. Life*
of Henry VIII. p. 863.

THEOBALD.
King.

KING HENRY VIII.

393

King. Ha! what ³so rank ²ab, ha——
There's mischief in this man. Canst thou say further?

Surv. I can, my Liege.

King. Proceed.

Surv. Being at *Greenwich*,
After your Highness had reprov'd the Duke
About Sir *William Blomer*——

King. I remember
Of such a time. He being my sworn servant,
The Duke retain'd him his. But on; what hence?

Surv. If, quoth he, I for this had been committed,
As to the *Tower*, I thought; I would have play'd
The part my father meant to act upon
Th' usurper *Richard*, who, being at *Salisbury*,
Made suit to come in's presence; which, if granted,
As he made semblance of his duty, would
Have put his knife into him.

King. A giant traitor!

Wol. Now, Madam, may his Highness live in
freedom,
And this man out of prison?

Queen. God mend all!

King. There's something more would out of thee;
what say'st?

Surv. After the Duke his father with the knife,—
He stretch'd him, and with one hand on his dagger,
Another spread on's breast, mounting his eyes,
He did discharge a horrible oath, whose tenour
Was, were he evil-us'd, he would out-go
His father, by as much as a performance
Does an irresolute purpose.

King. There's his period,
To sheath his knife in us. He is attach'd;
All him to present trial; if he may

³ ——*so rank.*] Rank weeds, says the King, *was he advanced*
in weeds that are grown up to *to this pitch?*
great height and strength. *What,*

Find

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Find mercy in the law, 'tis his; if none,
Let him not seek't of us. By day and night,
He's traitor to the height. [Exit,

SCENE VI.

An Apartment in the Palace.

Enter Lord Chamberlain, and Lord Sands.

Cham. ⁴ **I**S't possible, the spells of *France* should
juggle

Men into such strange mysteries?

Sands. New customs,
Though they be never so ridiculous,
Nay, let 'em be unmanly, yet are follow'd.

⁴ *Is't possible, the spells of
France should juggle*

Men into such strange MYSTERIES?] These *mysteries* were the fantastic court-fashions. He says they were occasioned by the spells of *France*. Now it was the opinion of the common people, that conjurers, jugglers, &c. with *spells* and *charms* could force men to commit idle fantastic-actions; and change even their shapes to something ridiculous and grotesque. To this superstition the poet alludes, who, therefore, we must think, wrote the second line thus,

*Men into such strange MOCKE-
RIES:*

A word well expressive of the whimsical fashions here complained of. Sir Thomas More, speaking of this very matter at the same time, says,

*Ut more SIMILAE laboret fingere
Et æmulari Gallicas ineptias.*

But the Oxford Editor, with-

out regard to the metaphor, but in order to improve on the emendation, reads *mimick'ries*; not considering neither that whatsoever any thing is changed or juggled into by *spells*, must have a passive signification, as *mockeries*, [i. e. visible figures] not an active, as *mimick'ries*.

WARBURTON.

I do not deny this note to be plausible, but am in doubt whether it be right. I believe the explanation of the word *mysteries* will spare us the trouble of trying experiments of emendation. *Mysteries* were allegorical shews, which the *nummers* of those times exhibited in odd and fantastic habits. *Mysteries* are used, by an easy figure, for those that exhibited *mysteries*; and the sense is only, that the travelled *Englishmen* were metamorphosed, by foreign fashions, into such an uncouth appearance, that they looked like *nummers* in a mystery.

Cham.

KING HENRY VIII.

Ham. As far as I see, all the good our *English* have got by the last voyage, is but merely a fit or two o'th'face, but they are shrewd ones, when they hold 'em, you would swear directly if very noses had been counsellors *Pepin* or *Clotharius*, they keep state so. *Ham.* They've all new legs, and lame ones; one would take it, I never saw 'em pace before, the spavin spring-halt reign'd among 'em. *Ham.* Death! my Lord. Their cloaths are after such a pagan cut too, but, sure, they've worn out christendom. How now? What news, Sir *Thomas Lovell*?

Enter Sir Thomas Lovell.

ov. Faith, my Lord, I hear of none, but the new proclamation is clap'd upon the court-gate. *Ham.* What is't for? *ov.* The reformation of our travell'd gallants, to fill the court with quarrels, talk, and tailors. *Ham.* I'm glad, 'tis there; now I would pray our Monseignieurs think an *English* courtier may be wise, I never see the *Louvre*. *ov.* They must either for so run the conditions) leave those remnants of fool and feather, that they got in *France*, with all their honourable points of ignorance training thereunto, as fights and fire-works, using better men than they can be, instead of a foreign wisdom, clean renouncing the faith they have in tennis, and tall stockings, short bolster'd breeches, and those types of travel, and understand again like honest men,

A fit or two o'th'face,—] A we now term a *grimace*, an artificial cast of the countenance.

Or

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Or pack to their old play-fellows ; there, I take it,
They may, *cum privilegio*, wear away
The lag-end of their lewdness, and be laugh'd at.

Sands. 'Tis time to give them physick, their diseases
Are grown so catching.

Cham. What a loss our ladies
Will have of these trim vanities ?

Lov. Ay, marry,
There will be woe indeed, Lords ; the sly whoresons
Have got a speeding trick to lay down Ladies.
A *French* song and a fiddle has no fellow.

Sands. The devil fiddle 'em ! I'm glad, they're
going,
For, sure, there's no converting 'em. Now, Sirs,
An honest country Lord, as I am, beaten
A long time out of play, may bring his plain song,
And have an hour of hearing, and, by'r Lady,
Held current musick too.

Cham. Well said, Lord *Sands* ;
Your colt's tooth is not cast yet ?

Sands. No, my Lord,
Nor shall not, while I have a stump.

Cham. Sir *Thomas*,
Whither are you going ?

Lov. To the Cardinal's ;
Your Lordship is a guest too.

Cham. O, 'tis true ;
This night he makes a supper, and a great one,
To many Lords and Ladies ; there will be
The beauty of this Kingdom, I'll assure you.

Lov. That churchman bears a bounteous mind indeed,
A hand as fruitful as the land that feeds us,
His dew falls ev'ry where.

Cham. No doubt he's noble ;
He had a black mouth, that said other of him.

Sands. He may, my Lord, h'as wherewithal ; in
him,

ING HENRY VII. 399

ould shew a worfe sin than ill doctrine.
 way should be most liberal,
 here for examples.
 true, they are so;
 w give so great ones. My barge stays;
 ship shall along. Come, good Sir Thomas,
 late else, which I would not be,
 poke to, with Sir Henry Guilford,
 to be comptrollers.
 am your Lordship's. [Exeunt.]

S C E N E VII.

Changes to York-House.

*A small table under a state for the Cardinal,
 able for the guests. Then enter Anne Bullen,
 s other ladies and gentlewomen, as guests, at
 at another door, enter Sir Henry Guilford.*

dies, a gen'ral welcome from his Grace
 salutes ye all; this night he dedicates
 tent and you; none here, he hopes,
 noble bevy, has brought with her
 broad; he would have all as merry
 good company, then good wine, good wel-
 ce,
 good people.

le bevy.] Milton
is word:

f fair dames.

good Company, good
] As this Passage
 long pointed, Sir
 is made to include
 the first Article;
 us the Drop as to
 allow. The Poet,
 d, wrote;

As first-good Company, good
Wine, good Welcome, &c.

i. e. he wou'd have you as merry
 as these three Things can make
 you, the best Company in the
 Land, of the best Rank, good
 Wine, &c. THEOBALD.

Sir T. Haumer has mended it
 more commodiously:

*As first, good company, then,
 good wine, &c.*

Enter

400 KING HENRY VIII.

Enter Lord Chamberlain, Lord Sands and Lovell.

O my Lord, y'are tardy ;
The very thoughts of this fair company
Chap'd wings to me.

Cham. You're young, Sir Harry Guilford.

Sands. Sir Thomas Lovell, had the Cardinal
But half my lay-thoughts in him, some of these
Should find a running banquet, ere they rested,
I think, would better please 'em. By my life,
They are a sweet society of fair ones.

Lov. O, that your Lordship were but now confessor
To one or two of these.

Sands. I would, I were ;
They should find easy penance.

Lov. 'Faith, how easy ?

Sands. As easy, as a down-bed would afford it.

Cham. Sweet ladies, will it please you sit ? Sir Harry,
Place you that side, I'll take the charge of this.
His Grace is entring. Nay, you must not freeze,
Two women, placed together, make cold weather.
My Lord Sands, you are one will keep 'em waking ;
Pray, sit between these ladies.

Sands. By my faith,
And thank your Lordship. By your leave, sweet la-
dies——

[Sits.]

If I chance to talk a little wild, forgive me,
I had it from my father.

Anne. Was he mad, Sir ?

Sands. O, very mad, exceeding mad, in love too ;
But he would bite none ; just as I do now,
He'd kiss you twenty with a breath.

[Kisses her.]

Cham. Well said, my Lord.

So, now y'are fairly seated. Gentlemen,
The penance lies on you, if these fair ladies
Pass away frowning.

Sands.

KING HENRY VIII. 407

nds. For my little cure,
me alone.

boys. Enter Cardinal Wolsey, and takes his state.

ol. Y'are welcome, my fair guests. That noble
lady,

gentleman, that is not freely merry,
at my friend. This, to confirm me welcome;
to you all good health. [Drinks.

nds. Your Grace is noble.
ne have such a bowl may hold my thanks,
save me so much talking.

ol. My Lord Sands,
beholden to you; cheer your neighbour.
adies, you are not merry.—Gentlemen,
ose fault is this?

nds. The red wine first must rise
their fair cheeks, my Lord, then we shall have 'em
us to silence.

me. You're a merry gamester,
Lord Sands.

nds. Yes, if I make my play.
's to your Ladyship, and pledge it, Madam,
'tis to such a thing —

me. You cannot shew me.

nds. I told your Grace, that they would talk anon.

[Drum and trumpets, chambers discharg'd.

ol. What's that?

bam. Look out there, some of ye.

ol. What warlike voice,
to what end is this? Nay, ladies, fear not;
all the laws of war y'are privileg'd.

Enter a Servant.

bam. How now? What is't?

ro. A noble troop of strangers,

ol. V.

D d

For

For so they seem; they have left their barge and
landed,

And hither make, as great ambassadors
From foreign Princes.

Wol. Good Lord Chamberlain,

Go, give 'em welcome; you can speak the *French*
tongue;

And, pray, receive 'em nobly, and conduct 'em
Into our presence, where this heav'n of beauty
Shall shine at full upon them. Some attend him,

[All arise, and tables removed.]

—You've now a broken banquet, but we'll mend it.

A good digestion to you all; and, once more,
I show'r a welcome on ye. Welcome all.

*Hautboys. Enter King and others as Maskers, habited
like Shepherds, usher'd by the Lord Chamberlain.
They pass directly before the Cardinal, and gracefully
salute him.*

A noble company! what are their pleasures?

Cham. Because they speak no *English*, thus they
pray'd

To tell your Grace, that having heard by fame

Of this so noble and so fair assembly,

This night to meet here, they could do no less,

Out of the great respect they bear to beauty,

But leave their flocks, and under your fair conduct

Crave leave to view these ladies, and entreat

An hour of revels with 'em.

Wol. Say, Lord Chamberlain,

They've done my poor house grace, for which I
pay 'em

A thousand thanks, and pray 'em take their pleasures.

[Chuses ladies, King and Anne Bullen.]

King. The fairest hand I ever touch'd! O beauty,
'Till now I never knew thee.

[Music. Dance.]

Wol. My Lord, ———

Wol.

KING HENRY VIII. 403

Wol. [*To Cham. aside.*] Pray tell 'em thus much from me:

There should be one amongst 'em by his person
more worthy this place than myself, to whom,
I but knew him, with my love and duty,
would surrender it.

Cham. I will, my Lord.

[*Chamb. goes to the company and returns.*]

Wol. What say they?

Cham. Such a one, they all confess,
there is, indeed; which they would have your Grace
send out, and he will take it.

Wol. Let me see then.

Call all your good leaves, gentlemen, here I'll make
my royal choice.

King. You've found him, Cardinal,
you hold a fair assembly; you do well, Lord,
you are a churchman, or I'll tell you, Cardinal,
should judge now ⁸ unhappily.

Wol. I'm glad,
your Grace is grown so pleasant.

King. My Lord Chamberlain,
y^e thee, come hither. What fair lady's that?

Cham. An't please your Grace, Sir *Thomas Bullen's*
daughter,

the Viscount *Rochford*, one of her Highness' women.

King. By heaven, she's a dainty one. Sweet heart,
were unmannerly to take you out, [*To Anne Bullen.*
And not to kiss you. A health, gentlemen —
let it go round.

Wol. Sir *Thomas Lovell*, is the banquet ready
in the privy chamber?

Lov. Yes, my Lord.

Wol. Your Grace,
fear with dancing is a little heated.

¹ Take it, that is take the ⁸ Unhappily, that is, unfortun-
ately; mischievously.

King. I fear, too much.

Wol. There's fresher air, my Lord,
In the next chamber.

King. Lead in your ladies every one. Sweet partner,
I must not yet forsake you. Let's be merry;
Good my Lord Cardinal, I have half a dozen healths
To drink to these fair ladies, and a measure
To lead them once again; and then let's dream
Who's best in favour. Let the musick knock it.

[Exeunt with Trumpets.]

A C T I I. S C E N E I.

A S T R E E T.

Enter two Gentlemen at several Doors.

1 G E N T L E M A N.

WHITHER away so fast?

2 *Gen.* O Sir, God save ye:
Ev'n to the hall, to hear what shall become
Of the great Duke of *Buckingham*.

1 *Gen.* I'll save you
That labour, Sir. All's now done, but the Ceremony
Of bringing back the pris'ner.

2 *Gen.* Were you there?

1 *Gen.* Yes, indeed, was I.

2 *Gen.* Pray, speak, what has happen'd?

1 *Gen.* You may guess quickly, what.

2 *Gen.* Is he found guilty?

1 *Gen.* Yes, truly is he, and condemn'd upon't.

2 *Gen.* I'm sorry for't.

1 *Gen.* So are a number more.

2 *Gen.* But, pray, how pass'd it?

1 *Gen.*

KING HENRY VIII. 405

Gen. I'll tell you in a little. The great Duke
to the Bar; where, to his Accusations,
leaded still not guilty; and alleg'd
sharp reasons to defeat the law.

King's Attorney, on the contrary,
on examinations, proofs, confessions
vers witnesses, which the Duke desir'd
ave brought *viva voce* to his Face;
hich appear'd against him, his Surveyor,
ilbert Peck his chancellor, and John Court
effor to him, with that devil-Monk
ns, that made this mischief.

Gen. That was he,
fed him with his prophecies.

Gen. The same.
hese accus'd him strongly, which he fain
ld have flung from him, but, indeed, he could
not:

so his Peers upon this evidence
found him guilty of high treason. Much
poke, and learnedly for life; but all
either pitied in him, or forgotten.

Gen. After all this, how did he bear himself?

Gen. When he was brought again to th' bar, to
hear

knell rung out, his Judgment, he was stirr'd
such an agony, he sweat extremely;
something spoke in choler, ill and hasty;
he fell to himself again, and sweetly
the rest shew'd a most noble patience.

Gen. I do not think, he fears death,

Gen. Sure, he does not,
never was so womanish; the cause
may a little grieve at.

Gen. Certainly,
Cardinal is the end of this.

Gen. 'Tis likely,
ll conjectures. First, *Kildare's* attainder,

406 KING HENRY VIII.

Then Deputy of *Ireland*; who remov'd,
Earl *Surrey* was sent thither, and in haste too,
Lest he should help his father.

2 *Gen.* That trick of state
Was a deep, envious one.

1 *Gen.* At his return,
No doubt, he will requite it; this is noted,
And, gen'rally, who-ever the King favours,
The Cardinal instantly will find employment for,
And far enough from court too.

2 *Gen.* All the commons
Hate him perniciously, and, o'my conscience,
With him ten fathom deep; this Duke as much
They love and doat on, call him bounteous *Buckingham*,
The Mirror of all courtesy.

S C E N E II.

*Enter Buckingham from his Arraignment, (Tiptoes
before him, the Axe with the edge toward him. Hab-
berds on each side) accompanied with Sir Thomas
Lovell, Sir Nicholas Vaux, Sir William Sands,
and common People, &c.*

1 *Gen.* Stay there, Sir,
And see the noble ruin'd Man you speak of.

2 *Gen.* Let's stand close and behold him.

Buck. All good People,
You that thus far have come to pity me,
Hear what I say, and then go home and lose me:
I have this day receiv'd a traitor's judgment,
And by that name must die; yet, heav'n bear witness,
And if I have a conscience, let it sink me
Even as the axe falls, if I be not faithful.
To th' law I bear no malice for my death,
'T has done, upon the premises, but Justice:
But those that sought it, I could wish more Christians;
Be what they will, I heartily forgive 'em;

Yet

at 'em look, they glory not in mischief;
 build their evils on the graves of great men;
 men, my guiltless blood must cry 'gainst 'em.
 further life in this world I ne'er hope,
 will I sue, although the King have mercies
 than I dare make faults. 'Ye few, that lov'd me,
 dare be bold to weep for *Buckingham*,
 noble friends and fellows, whom to leave
 y bitter to him, only dying,
 ith me, like good Angels, to my end:
 as the long divorce of steel falls on me,
 of your prayers one sweet sacrifice,
 lift my soul to heav'n—Lead on, o'God's name.
 v. I do beseech your Grace for charity,
 or any malice in your heart
 hid against me, now forgive me frankly.
 ck. Sir *Thomas Lovell*, I as free forgive you,
 would be forgiven; I forgive all.
 e cannot be those numberless offences
 ist me, I can't take peace with: 'no black envy
 Shall

'Ye few, that loved me, &c.]

lines are remarkably ten-
 d pathetick

—no black envy

ll MAKE my grave.—]

sense of this is, that envy
 not procure or advance
 ath. But this is not what
 ould say; he believed the
 nal's: envy did procure his
 . He is speaking not of
 er's envy, but his own.

his thought is, that he
 l not be remembered for an
 cable unforgiving temper.
 ould read therefore,

—no black envy

Shall MARK my grave.—]

ing to the old custom of
 ing good or ill, by a *white*

or black stone. *WARBURTON.*

Dr. *Warburton* has with good
 judgment observed the etroure,
 but has not, I think, very hap-
 pily corrected it. I do not see
 how the envy of those that are
 buried can mark the grave. In
 reading the lines I cannot but
 suspect that two words, as it may
 naturally happen, have changed
 places.

*There cannot be those numberless
 offences*

*'Gainst me, I can't take peace
 with: no black envy*

Shall make my grave.—]

I would read thus:

*There cannot be those numberless
 offences*

D d 4

'Gainst

Shall make my grave.—Commend me to his Grace;
 And, if he speak of *Buckingham*, pray tell him,
 You met him half in heav'n; my vows and pray'rs
 Yet are the King's; and, 'till my soul forsake me,
 Shall cry for blessings on him. May he live
 Longer than I have time to tell his years!
 Ever belov'd and loving may his rule be!
 And when old time shall lead him to his end,
 Goodness, and he fill up one monument!

Lov. To th'water-side I must conduct your Grace,
 Then give my charge up to Sir *Nicholas Vaux*,
 Who undertakes you to your end.

Vaux. Prepare there,
 The Duke is coming. See, the barge be ready,
 And fit it with such furniture as suits
 The greatness of his Person.

Buck. Nay, Sir *Nicholas*,
 Let it alone; my state now but will mock me.
 When I came hither, I was Lord high Constable,
 And Duke of *Buckingham*; now, poor *Edward Bobun*;
 Yet I am richer than my base accusers,
 That never knew what truth meant; * I now seal it;
 And with that blood, will make 'em one day groan
 for't.

My noble father, *Henry of Buckingham*,
 Who first rais'd head against usurping *Richard*,
 Flying for succour to his servant *Banister*,
 Being distress'd, was by that wretch betray'd,
 And without trial fell; God's peace be with him!
Henry the Seventh succeeding, truly pitying
 My father's loss, like a most royal Prince

'Gainst me, I can't make peace
 with, no black envy
 Shall take my grave.
 To take in this place is to blast,
 to strike with malignant influence.
 So in *Lear*,
 —Strike her young limbs
 Ye taking airs with lameness.

So in *Hamlet*,
 —No spirit dares walk so
 broad,
 No planet takes.——
 * I now seal it, &c.] I now
 seal my truth, my loyalty, with
 blood, which blood shall one
 day make them groan.

Re-

restor'd to me my honours; and, from ruins,
made my name, once more, noble. Now his son,
my the Eighth, life, honour, name, and all
that made me happy, at one stroke has taken
or ever from the world. I had my trial,
and must needs say, a noble one, which makes me
little happier than my wretched father;
yet thus far we are one in fortune, both
ill by our servants, by those men we lov'd most.

most unnatural and faithless service!
cav'n has an end in all: yet, you that hear me,
his from a dying man receive as certain;
'here you are lib'ral of your loves and counsels,
: sure, you be not loose; those you make friends,
and give your hearts to, when they once perceive
he least rub in your fortunes, fall away
like water from ye, never found again,
at where they mean to sink ye. All good people,
pray for me! I must leave ye; the last hour
of my long weary life is come upon me.
farewell; and when you would say something sad,
speak, how I fell—I've done; and God forgive me!

[*Exeunt Buckingham and Train,*

1 Gen. O, this is full of pity; Sir, it calls,
fear, too many curses on their heads,
that were the authors.

2 Gen. If the Duke be guiltless,
'is full of woe; yet I can give you inkling
of an ensuing evil, if it fall,
greater than this.

1 Gen. Good angels keep it from us!
'hat may it be? you do not doubt my faith, Sir?

2 Gen. This secret is so weighty, 'twill require
A strong faith to conceal it.

1 Gen. Let me have it;
do not talk much.

2 Gen. I am confident;

* *Strong faith is great fidelity.*

410 KING HENRY VIII.

You shall, Sir. Did you not of late days hear
A buzzing of a separation
Between the King and *Cath'rine*?

1 *Gen.* Yes, but it held not;
For when the King once heard it, out of anger
He sent command to the Lord Mayor strait
To stop the rumour; and allay those tongues,
That durst disperse it.

2 *Gen.* But that slander, Sir,
Is found a truth now; for it grows again
Fresher than e'er it was, and held for certain,
The King will venture at it. Either the Cardinal,
Or some about him near, have, out of malice
To the good Queen, possess'd him with a scruple
That will undo her; to confirm this too,
Cardinal *Campeius* is arriv'd, and lately,
As all think, for this business.

1 *Gen.* 'Tis the Cardinal;
And meerly to revenge him on the Emperor,
For not bestowing on him, at his asking,
The Arch-bishoprick of *Toledo*, this is purpos'd.

2 *Gen.* I think, you've hit the mark; but is't not
cruel,
That she should feel the smart of this? The Cardinal
Will have his will, and she must fall.

1 *Gen.* 'Tis woful.
We are too open here to argue this:
Let's think in private more.

[*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E III.

An Antechamber in the Palace.

Enter Lord Chamberlain reading a letter.

*M*R Lord, the horses your lordship sent for, with all
the care I had, I saw well chosen, ridden, and
furnished. They were young and handsome, and of the
best

K I N G H E N R Y V I I I . 411

best breed in the North. When they were ready to set out for London, a man of my Lord Cardinal's, by commission and main power took 'em from me, with this reason; his master would be serv'd before a subject, if not before the King, which stopp'd our mouths, Sir.

I fear, he will, indeed. Well, let him have them;
He will have all, I think.

Enter to the Lord Chamberlain, the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk.

Nor. Well met, my Lord Chamberlain.

Cham. Good day to both your Graces.

Suf. How is the King employ'd?

Cham. I left him private,
Full of sad thoughts and troubles.

Nor. What's the cause?

Cham. It seems, the marriage with his brother's wife
Has crept too near his conscience.

Suf. No, his conscience
Has crept too near another lady.

Nor. 'Tis so;

This is the Cardinal's doing; the King-Cardinal!
That blind priest, like the eldest son of fortune,
Turns what he lists. The King will know him one
day.

Suf. Pray God, he do! he'll never know himself else.

Nor. How holily he works in all his business,
And with what zeal? for now he has crackt the league
'Tween us and th'Emperor, the Queen's great nephew,
He dives into the King's soul, and there scatters
Doubts, dangers, wringing of the conscience,
Fears, and despair, and all these for his marriage;
And out of all these, to restore the King,
He counsels a divorce; a loss of Her,
That, like a jewel, has hung twenty years
About his neck, yet never lost her lustre;

Of her, that loves him with that excellence,
That angels love good men with ; even of her,
That, when the greatest stroke of fortune falls,
Will bless the King. And is not this course pious ?

Cham. Heav'n keep me from such counsel ! 'tis
most true,

These news are ev'ry where ; ev'ry tongue speaks 'em,
And ev'ry true heart weeps for't. All, that dare
Look into these affairs, see his main end,
The *French King's* sister. Heav'n will one day open
The King's eyes, that so long have slept upon
This bold, bad man.

Suf. And free us from his slavery.

Nor. We had need pray, and heartily, for deliv'rance ;

Or this imperious man will work us all

* From princes into pages ; all men's honours
Lie like one lump before him, to be fashion'd
† Into what pitch he please.

Suf. For me, my Lords,

I love him not, nor fear him, there's my Creed ;
As I am made without him, so I'll stand,
If the King please ; his curses and his blessings
Touch me alike ; they're breath I not believe in ;
I knew him, and I know him ; so I leave him
To him, that made him proud, the Pope.

Nor. Let's in.

And with some other business put the King

* From princes into pages.]
This may allude to the retinue
of the Cardinal, who had several
of the nobility among his
menial servants.

† Into what pitch he please.]
Here is a strange dissonance in
the metaphor, which is taken
from unbaked dough. I read,

Into what PITCH he please.

i. e. into what shape he please.

Walsingham.

I do not think this emendation necessary, let the allusion
be to what it will. The mass
must be fashioned into pits or
height as well as into particular
form. The meaning is, that
the Cardinal can, as he pleases,
make high or low.

From

K I N G H E N R Y V I I I. 413

From these sad thoughts, that work too much upon him ;

—My Lord, you'll bear us company ?

Cham. Excuse me,

The King hath sent me other-where ; besides

You'll find a most unfit time to disturb him.

Health to your Lordships. [*Exit Lord Chamberlain.*]

Nor. Thanks, my good Lord Chamberlain.

S C E N E I V.

The Scene draws, and discovers the King sitting and reading pensively.

Suf. How sad he looks ! sure, he is much afflicted.
King. Who's there ? ha ?

Nor. Pray God, he be not angry.

King. Who's there, I say ? how dare you thrust yourselves

Into my private meditations ?

Who am I ? ha ?

Nor. A gracious King, that pardons all offences,
Malice ne'er meant. Our breach of duty this way,
Is business of estate ; in which we come
To know your royal pleasure.

King. Ye are too bold ;

Go to ; I'll make ye know your times of business.

Is this an hour for temporal affairs ? ha ?

Enter Wolsey, and Campeius the Pope's Legate, with a Commission.

Who's there ? my good Lord Cardinal ?—O my
Wolsey,

The quiet of my wounded conscience !

Thou art a cure fit for a King.—You're welcome,
[*To Campeius.*]

Most learned rev'rend Sir, into our kingdom ;

U6

414 KING HENRY VIII.

Use us, and it. My good Lord, + have great care
I be not found a talker. [To Wolsey,

Wol. Sir, you cannot.

I would your Grace would give us but an hour
Of private Conf'rence.

King. We are busy; go. [To Norf. and Suff.

Nor. This priest has no pride in him!

Suf. Not to speak of:

I would not be * so sick though, for his place.
But this cannot continue.

Nor. If it do,
I'll venture one heave at him.

Suf. I another. [Exeunt Norfolk and Suffolk.

Wol. Your Grace has giv'n a precedent of wisdom
Above all Princes, in committing freely
Your scruple to the voice of Christendom:
Who can be angry now? what envy reach you?
The *Spaniard*, ty'd by blood and favour to her,
Must now confess, if he have any goodness,
The trial just and noble. All the clerks,
I mean the learned ones, in christian kingdoms,
Have their free voices. *Rome*, the nurse of judgment,
Invited by your noble self, hath sent
One gen'ral tongue unto us, this good man,
This just and learned priest, Cardinal *Campeius*;
Whom once more I present unto your Highness.

King. And once more in mine arms I bid him wel-
come,
And thank the holy Conclave for their loves;
They've sent me such a man I would have wish'd for.

Cam. Your Grace must needs deserve all strangers'
loves,
You are so noble. To your Highness' hand
I tender my commission; by whole virtue,

* ——— have great care that my professions of well-meaning be
I be not found a talker.} I take not found empty talk.
the meaning to be, Let care be * —so sick though.} That is,
taken that my promise be performed, so sick as he is proud.

KING HENRY VIII.

The court of *Rome* commanding; you, my Lord
Cardinal of *York*, are join'd with me, their servant,
In the impartial judging of this business.

King. Two equal men. The Queen shall be acquainted

Forthwith for what you come. Where's *Gardiner*?

Wol. I know, your Majesty has always lov'd her
So dear in heart, not to deny her what
A woman of less place might ask by law;
Scholars, allow'd freely to argue for her.

King. Ay, and the best, she shall have; and my
favour

To him that does best, God forbid else. Cardinal,
Pr'ythee, call *Gardiner* to me, my new secretary,
I find him a fit fellow.

Cardinal goes out, and re-enters with Gardiner.

Wol. Give me your hand; much joy and favour to
you;

You are the King's now.

Gard. But to be commanded

For ever by your Grace, whose hand has rais'd me.

King. Come hither, *Gardiner*. [*Walks and whispers.*]

Cam. My Lord of *York*, was not one Doctor *Pace*
In this man's place before him?

Wol. Yes, he was.

Cam. Was he not held a learned man?

Wol. Yes surely.

Cam. Believe me, there's an ill opinion spread then
Ev'n of yourself, Lord Cardinal.

Wol. How! of me?

Cam. They will not stick to say, you envy'd him;
And fearing he would rise, he was so virtuous,
'Kept him a foreign man still, which so griev'd him,
That he ran mad and dy'd.

³ *Kept him a foreign man still.]* fence, employed in foreign em-
bassies. *Wol.*

Wol. Heav'n's peace be with him !
That's christian care enough. For living murmurers,
There's places of rebuke. He was a fool,
For he would needs be virtuous. That good fellow,
If I command him, follows my appointment ;
I will have none so near else. Learn this, brother,
We live not to be grip'd by meaner persons.

King. Deliver this with modesty to th' Queen.

[Exit Gardiner.]

The most convenient place that I can think of,
For such receipt of learning, is *Black-Friars*;
There ye shall meet about this weighty business.
My *Wolfey*, see it furnish'd. O my Lord,
Would it not grieve an able man to leave
So sweet a bedfellow? but, conscience! conscience!
O, 'tis a tender place, and must I leave her. [*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E V.

'An Antechamber of the Queen's Apartments.

Enter Anne Bullen, and an old Lady

Anne. **N**OT for that neither—here's the pang that pinches.

His Highness having liv'd so long with her, and she
So good a lady, that no tongue could ever
Pronounce dishonour of her, (by my life,
She never knew harm-doing) oh, now after
So many courses of the sun, enthron'd,
Still growing in a majesty and pomp,
The which to leave 's a thousand fold more bitter
Than sweet at first t'acquire; after this process,
' To give her the avant! it is a pity
Would move a monster.

⁶ *To give her the avant !*] To send her away contemptuously ; to pronounce against her a sentence of ejection.

Old L. Hearts of most hard temper
Melt and lament for her.

Anne. In God's will, better
She ne'er had known pomp; though 't be temporal,
' Yet if that quarrel, fortune, do divorce
It from the bearer, 'tis a suff'rance panging
As soul and body's sev'ring.

Old L. Ah! poor lady,
She's * stranger now again.

Anne. So much the more
Must pity drop upon her; verily,
I swear, 'tis better to be lowly born,
And range with humble livers in content,
Than to be perk'd up in a glist'ring grief,
And wear a golden sorrow.

Old L. Our content
Is * our best Having.

Anne. By my troth and maidenhead,
I would not be a Queen.

Old L. Beshrew me, I would,
And venture maidenhead for't; and so would you,
For all this spice of your hypocrisy;
You, that have so fair parts of woman on you,
Have too a woman's heart, which ever yet
Affected eminence, wealth, sovereignty,
Which, to say sooth, are blessings; and which gifts,

Yet if that quarrel, Fortune,— He calls Fortune a
quarrel or arrow, from her strik-
ing so deep and suddenly. *Quar-*
rel was a large arrow so called.
Thus Fairfax

*—T'wang'd the string, out flew
the quarrel long.*

WARBURTON.
Such is Dr. Warburton's inter-
pretation. Sir Thomas Hanmer
reads,

That quarreller Fortune.
I think the poet may be easily

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supposed to use *quarrel* for *quar-*
reller, as *murder* for *murderer*, the
act for the agent.

* —*stranger now again.*] A-
gain an alien; not only no long-
er Queen, but no longer an Eng-
lishwoman.

* —*our best Having.*] That
is, our best *possession*. So in *Mac-*
beth,

————— *Promises*
Of noble having and of royal hope.
In Spanish, hacienda.

E c

Saving

Saving your mincing, the capacity
Of your soft * cheveril conscience would receive,
If you might please to stretch it.

Anne. Nay, good troth——

Old L. Yes, troth and troth, you would not be a Queen?

Anne. No, not for all the riches under heav'n.

Old L. 'Tis strange; a three-pence bow'd would
hire me,

Old as I am, to queen it. But I pray you,
What think you of a Dutchess? have you limbs
To bear that load of title?

Anne. No, in truth.

Old L. Then you are weakly made; † pluck off a little.
I would not be a young Count in your way,
For more than blushing comes to. If your back
Cannot vouchsafe this burden, 'tis too weak
Ever to get a boy.

Anne. How do you talk!

I swear again, I would not be a Queen
For all the world.

Old L. In faith, for little *England*
' You'd venture an emballing: I myself
Would for *Carnarvonshire*, though there belong'd
No more to th' Crown but that. Lo, who comes
here?

Enter Lord Chamberlain.

Cham. Good morrow, ladies; what were't worth to
know

The secret of your conf'rence?

Anne. My good Lord,

Not your demand; it values not your asking:
Our mistress' sorrows we were pitying.

* *Cheveril*, is kid's skin, soft
leather.

† *Pluck off a little.*] What
must she pluck off? I think we
may better read,

——*pluck up a little.*

Pluck up! is an idiomatical ex-
pression for *take courage*.

° *You'd venture an emballing.*]
You would venture to be distin-
guished by the *ball*, the ensign
of royalty.

Cham.

Cham. It was a gentle business, and becoming
The action of good women: there is hope,
All will be well.

Anne. Now I pray God, amen!

Cham. You bear a gentle mind, and heav'nly blessings
Follow such creatures. That you may, fair lady,
Perceive I speak sincerely, an high note's
Ta'en of your many virtues; the King's Majesty
Commends his good opinion to you, and
Does purpose honour to you no less flowing
Than Marchioness of *Pembroke*; to which title
A thousand pounds a year, annual support,
Out of his grace he adds.

Anne. I do not know
What kind of my obedience I should tender.
More than my all, is nothing; nor my prayers
Are not words duly hallow'd, nor my wishes
More worth than vanities; yet pray'rs and wishes
Are all I can return. Beseech your Lordship,
Vouchsafe to speak my thanks and my obedience,
As from a blushing handmaid to his Highness;
Whose health and royalty I pray for.

Cham. Lady,
I shall not fail to approve the fair conceit,
The King hath of you.—I've perus'd her well;
Beauty and honour are in her so mingled, [*Aside.*
That they have caught the King; and who knows yet,
But from this lady may proceed a Gem,

¹ *More than my all, is nothing:*]
No figure can free this expression
from nonsense. In spite of the
exactness of measure, we should
read,

*More than my all, WHICH is
nothing,*
i. e. which all is nothing.

WAREBURTON.

It is not nonsense, but only
an hyperbole. Not only my *all*
is nothing, but if my all were more

than it is, it were still nothing.

² *I shall not fail, &c.]* I shall
not omit to strengthen, by my
commendation, the opinion which
the King has formed.

³ ———— a Gem
To lighten all this isle? —]

Perhaps alluding to the *carbuncle*,
a gem supposed to have intrinsic
light, and to shine in the dark;
any other gem may reflect light,
but cannot give it.

To lighten all this isle?—I'll to the King,
And say, I spoke with you. [*Exit Lord Chamberlain.*]

Anne. My honour'd Lord.

Old L. Why, this it is : see, see !

I have been begging sixteen years in court,
Am yet a courtier beggarly, nor could
Come pat betwixt *too early* and *too late*,
For any suit of pounds ; and you, oh fate !
A very fresh fish here ; fy, fy upon
This compell'd fortune, have your mouth fill'd up,
Before you open it.

Anne. This is strange to me.

Old L. How tastes it ? is it bitter ? forty pence, no.
There was a lady once ('tis an old story)
That would not be a Queen, that would she not,
For all the mud in *Egypt*. Have you heard it ?

Anne. Come, you are pleasant.

Old L. With your theme, I could
O'er-mount the lark. The Marchioness of *Pembroke* !
A thousand pounds a year, for pure respect !
No other Obligation ! By my life,
That promises more thousands ; honour's train
Is longer than his fore-skirt. By this time,
I know, your back will bear a Dutche's. Say,
Are you not stronger than you were ?

Anne. Good lady,
Make yourself mirth with your particular fancy,
And leave me out on't. 'Would I had no being,
If this salute my blood a jot ; it faints me
To think what follows.

The Queen is comfortless, and we forgetful
In our long absence ; pray, do not deliver
What here y'ave heard, to her.

Old L. What do you think me ?—— [*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E

S C E N E VI.

Changes to Black-Fryars.

*Trumpets, * Sennet, and Cornets. Enter two Vergers, with short silver Wands; next them, two Scribes in the habits of Doctors; after them, the Archbishop of Canterbury alone; after him, the Bishops of Lincoln, Ely, Rochester, and St. Asaph; next them, with some small distance, follows a Gentleman bearing the purse, with the great seal, and the Cardinal's bat; then two Priests, bearing each a silver Cross; then a gentleman-usher bare-headed, accompanied with a serjeant at arms, bearing a mace; then two gentlemen, bearing two great silver † pillars; after them, side by side, the two Cardinals; two noblemen with the sword and mace. The King takes place under the cloth of state; the two Cardinals sit under him, as judges. The Queen takes place, some distance from the King. The Bishops place themselves on each side the Court, in manner of a Consistory; below them, the scribes, The Lords sit next the Bishops. The rest of the attendants stand in convenient order about the stage.*

Wol. **W** Hilst our commission from Rome is read,
Let silence be commanded.

King. What's the need?
It hath already publickly been read,
And on all sides th'authority allow'd;
You may then spare that time,

Wol. Be't so; proceed.

* *Sennet.*] I know not the meaning of this word, which is in all the editions, except that *Hanmer*, not understanding it, has left it out. It should probably be *Seneschals*.

† Pillars were some of the en-

signs of dignity carried before cardinals. Sir *Thomas More*, when he was speaker to the Commons, advised them to admit *Wolsey* into the house with his maces and his pillars.

More's Life of Sir T. More

E c 3

Scribe.

Scribe. Say, *Henry King of England*, come into the Court.

Crier. *Henry King of England*, &c.

King. Here.

Scribe. Say, *Catharine Queen of England*, Come into the Court.

Crier. *Catharine, Queen of England*, &c.

[*The Queen makes no answer, rises out of her chair, goes about the Court, comes to the King, and kneels at his feet; then speaks.*]

Queen. Sir, I desire you, do me right and justice; And to bestow your pity on me; for I am a most poor Woman, and a stranger, Born out of your dominions; having here No judge indiff'rent, and no more assurance Of equal friendship and proceeding. Alas, Sir, In what have I offended you? what cause Hath my behaviour giv'n to your displeasure, That thus you should proceed to put me off, And take your good grace from me? Heaven witness, I've been to you a true and humble wife, At all times to your will conformable, Ever in fear to kindle your dislike; Yea, subject to your count'nance, glad or sorry, As I saw it inclin'd. When was the hour, I ever contradicted your desire? Or made it not mine too? which of your friends Have I not strove to love, although I knew He were mine enemy? what friend of mine, That had to him deriv'd your anger, did I Continue in my liking? ⁵ nay, gave not notice He was from thence discharg'd. Sir, call to mind, That I have been your wife, in this obedience,

⁵ In former editions :
—*nay, gave notice*] Which, though the authour's common liberties of speech might justify, yet I cannot but think that *not*

was dropped before *notice*, having the same letters, and have therefore followed Sir *Thomas Hamer's* correction.

Upward of twenty years ; and have been blest
 With many children by you ; if in the course
 And process of this time you can report,
 And prove it too, against mine honour aught,
 My bond of wedlock, or my love and duty,
 Against your sacred person, in God's name,
 Turn me away, and let the foul'st contempt
 Shut door upon me, and so give me up
 To th' sharpest kind of justice. Please you, Sir,
 The King your father was reputed for
 A Prince most prudent, of an excellent
 And unmatched wit and judgment. *Ferdinand*
 My father, King of *Spain*, was reckon'd one
 The wisest Prince that there had reign'd by many
 A year before. It is not to be question'd,
 That they had gather'd a wise council to them,
 Of ev'ry realm, that did debate this business,
 Who deem'd our marriage lawful. Wherefore humbly,
 Sir, I beseech you, spare me, 'till I may
 Be by my friends in *Spain* advis'd ; whose counsel
 I will implore. If not, i'th' name of God,
 Your pleasure be fulfill'd !

Wol. You have here, lady,
 And of your choice, these rev'rend fathers, men
 Of singular integrity and learning :
 Yea, the elect o'th' land, who are assembled
 To plead your cause. It shall be therefore bootless,
 That longer you defer the Court, as well
 For your own quiet, as to rectify
 What is unsettled in the King.

Cam. His Grace
 Hath spoken well and justly ; therefore, Madam,
 It's fit this royal Session do proceed ;
 And that without delay their arguments
 Be now produc'd, and heard.

Queen. Lord Cardinal,
 To you I speak.

Wol. Your pleasure, Madam ?

Queen. Sir,
I am about to weep; but thinking that
We are a Queen, or long have dream'd so; certain,
The daughter of a King; my drops of tears
I'll turn to sparks of fire,

Wol. Be patient yet——

Queen. I will, when you are humble: nay, before.—
Induc'd by potent circumstances, that
You are mine enemy, ⁶ and make my challenge,
You shall not be my judge. For it is you
Have blown this coal betwixt my Lord and me,
Which God's dew quench! therefore, I say again,
I utterly abhor, yea, from my soul
Refuse you for my judge, whom yet once more
I hold my most malicious foe, and think not
At all a friend to truth.

Wol. I do profess,
You speak not like yourself; who ever yet
Have stood to charity, and display'd th' effects
Of disposition gentle, and of wisdom
O'er-topping woman's power. Madam, you wrong me.
I have no spleen against you, nor injustice
For you, or any; how far I've proceeded,
Or how far further shall, is warranted
By a Commission from the Consistory,
Yea, the whole Consist'ry of *Rome*. You charge me,
That I have blown this coal; I do deny it;
The King is present; if't be known to him
That I gainsay my deed, how may he wound,
And worthily, my falsehood? yea, as much
As you have done my truth. But if he know
That I am free of your report, he knows,

⁶ ——and make my challenge,
You shall not be my judge.]
Challenge is here a *verbum juris*,
a law term. The criminal, when
he refuses a jurymen, says, *I*
challenge him. I think there is
a slight error which destroys the

connection, and would read,
Induc'd by potent circumstances,
that
You are mine enemy, I make my
challenge.
—You shall not be my judge.

not of your wrong. Therefore in him
 s to cure me, and the cure is to
 ove these thoughts from you. The which before
 Highness shall speak in, I do beseech
 , gracious Madam, to unthink your speaking;
 to say so no more.

Queen. My Lord, my Lord,
 a simple woman, much too weak
 ope your cunning. You are meek, and humble-
 mouth'd ;

u sign your place and calling, in full seeming,
 h meekness and humility ; but your heart
 amm'd with arrogancy, spleen, and pride.

have by fortune, and his Highness' favours,
 e slightly o'er low steps ; and now ' are mounted,
 re Pow'rs are your retainers ; and your words,
 uesticks to you, serve your will, as't please
 rself pronounce their office. I must tell you,
 tender more your person's honour, than
 r high profession spiritual ; that again
 refuse you for my judge ; and here,
 re you all, appeal unto the Pope,
 bring my whole cause 'fore his Holiness ;
 l to be judg'd by him.

[She curt'sies to the King, and offers to depart.]

King. The Queen is obstinate,
 oborn to justice, apt t'accuse it, and
 lainful to be try'd by't ; 'tis not well.
 s going away.

*You sign your place and cal-
 — } Sign, for answer.*

WARBURTON.
 think, to *sign* must here be
sw, to denote. By your out-
 meekness and humility you
 that you are of an holy or-
 but, &c.

*—You are mounted,
 'here Pow'rs are your retain-
 ers ; and your words,*

*Domesticks to you, serve your
 will.]* You have now got
power at your beck, following
 in your retinue ; and *words* there-
 fore are degraded to the servile
 state of performing any office
 which you shall give them. In
 humbler and more common
 terms ; *Having now got power*
you do not regard your word.

King.

King. Call her again.

Crier. *Catbarine*, Queen of *England*, come into the Court.

Usher. Madam, you are call'd back.

Queen. What need you note it? Pray you, keep your way.

When you are call'd, return.—Now the Lord help,
They vex me past my patience!—Pray you, pass on.
I will not tarry; no, nor ever more
Upon this business my appearance make
In any of their Courts.

[*Exeunt Queen and her Attendants.*]

S C E N E VII.

King. Go thy ways, *Kate*;
That man i'th' world who shall report he has
A better wife, let him in nought be trusted,
For speaking false in that. Thou art alone,
If thy rare qualities, sweet gentleness,
Thy meekness saint-like, wife-like government,
Obeying in commanding, and thy parts
Sov'reign and pious else, ⁹could speak thee out,
The Queen of earthly Queens. She's noble born;
And, like her true nobility, she has
Carried herself tow'rds me.

Wol. Most gracious Sir,
In humblest manner I require your Highness,
That it shall please you to declare, in hearing
Of all these ears, (for where I'm robb'd and bound,
There must I be unloos'd, ¹ although not there

At

⁹—could speak thee out] If
thy several qualities had tongues
to speak thy praise.

¹—although not there

AT ONCE, and fully satisfi-
fy'd:—] What he aims

at is this; where I am robbed
and bound, there must I be un-
loosed, though the injurers be
not there to make me satisfac-
tion: as much as to say, I owe
so much to my own innocence,

At once, and fully satisfy'd) if I
Did broach this business to your Highness, or
Laid any scruple in your way, which might
Induce you to the question on't, or ever
Have to you, but with thanks to God for such
A royal lady, spake one the least word,
That might be prejudice of her present state,
Or touch of her good person?

King. My Lord Cardinal,
I do excuse you; yea, upon mine honour,
I free you from't. You are not to be taught,
That you have many enemies, that know not
Why they are so; but, like the village curs,
Bark when their fellows do; by some of these
The Queen is put in anger. Y'are excus'd;
But will you be more justify'd? you ever
Have wish'd the sleeping of this business, never
Desir'd it to be stirr'd, but oft have hindred
The passages made tow'rds it.—² On my honour,
I speak my good Lord Cardinal to this point;
And thus far clear him. Now, what mov'd me to't—
I will be bold with time and your attention.—
Then mark th' inducement. Thus it came—give
heed to't—

My conscience first receiv'd a tenderness,
¹ Scruple, and prick, on certain speeches utter'd

as to clear up my character, tho'
I do not expect my wrongers will
do me justice. It seems then
that *Shakspear* wrote,

At once, and fully satisfy'd.—

WARBURTON.

I do not see what is gained by
this alteration. The sense, which
is incumbered with words in ei-
ther reading, is no more than
this. I must be *loos'd*, though
when so *loos'd* I shall not be sa-
tisfy'd fully and at once; that is,
I shall not be immediately satisfied.

² ———on my Honour,
*I speak my good Lord Cardinal
to this Point*] The King,
having first address'd to *Wolsey*,
breaks off: and declares upon
his Honour to the whole Court,
that he speaks the *Cardinal's* Sen-
timents upon the Point in ques-
tion; and clears him from any
Attempt, or Wish, to stir that
Business. THEOBALD.

³ *Scruple, and prick,*] Prick
of conscience was the term in
confession.

By th'bishop of *Bayon*, then *French* ambassador ;
 Who had been hither sent on the debating
 A marriage 'twixt the Duke of *Orleans* and
 Our daughter *Mary* ; I'th' progress of this business,
 Ere a determinate resolution, he
 (I mean the bishop) did require a respite ;
 Wherein he might the King his Lord advertise,
 Whether our daughter were legitimate,
 Respecting this our marriage with the Dowager,
 Sometime our brother's wife. * This respite shook
 The bosom of my conscience, enter'd me,
 Yea, with a splitting power, and made to tremble
 The region of my breast ; which forc'd such way,
 That many maz'd considerings did throng,
 And prest in with this caution. First, methought,
 I stood not in the smile of heav'n, which had
 Commanded nature, that my Lady's womb,
 If it conceiv'd a male-child by me, should
 Do no more offices of life to't, than
 The grave does to the dead ; for her male-issue
 Or died where they were made, or shortly after
 This world had air'd them. Hence I took a thought,
 This was a judgment on me, that my kingdom,
 Well worthy the best heir o'th'world, should not
 Be gladdened in't by me. Then follows, that
 I weigh'd the danger which my realms stood in
 By this my issue's fail ; and that gave to me
 Many a groaning throe. Thus ' hulling in

* ——— *This Respite shook
 The Bosom of my Conscience,*]
 Tho' this Reading be Sense, yet,
 I verily believe, the Poet wrote ;

The Bottom of my Conscience.—
Shakespeare, in all his historic
 Plays, was a most diligent Ob-
 server of *Hulling head's* Chroni-
 cle. Now *Hulling head*, in the
 Speech which he has given to
 King *Henry* upon this Subject,
 makes him deliver himself thus :

" Which Words, once conceiv'd
 " within the secret *Bottom* of my
 " *Conscience*, ingendred such a
 " scrupulous Doubt, that my Con-
 " science was incontinently ac-
 " combred, vex'd, and disquiet-
 " ed." *Vid. Life of Henry VIII.*
 p. 907. THEOBALD.

5 ——— *hulling in
 The wild sea—*] That is,
 Floating without guidance ; tost
 here and there.

The

The wild sea of my conscience, I did steer
Towards this remedy, whereupon we are
Now present here together: that's to say,
I mean to rectify my conscience, which
I then did feel full-sick, and yet not well,
By all the rev'rend fathers of the land
And doctors learn'd. First, I began in private
With you, my Lord of *Lincoln*; you remember,
How under my oppression I did reek,
When I first mov'd you.

Lin. Very well, my Liege.

King. I have spoke long; be pleas'd yourself to say
How far you satisfy'd me.

Lin. Please your Highness,
The question did at first so stagger me,
Bearing a state of mighty moment in't,
And consequence of dread, that I committed
The daring'st counsel, which I had, to doubt,
And did intreat your Highness to this course,
Which you are running here.

King. ° I then mov'd you,
My Lord of *Canterbury*; and got your leave
To make this present summons. Unsolicited
I left no rev'rend person in this Court,
But by particular consent proceeded
Under your hands and seals. Therefore go on;
For no dislike i'th' world against the person
Of our good Queen, but the sharp thorny points
Of my alleged reasons drive this forward.

° I have rescued the Text from
Hollingshead. — " I mov'd it in
" Confession to You, my Lord
" of *Lincoln*, then ghostly Fa-
" ther. And forasmuch as then
" you yourself were in some
" Doubt, you mov'd me to ask
" the Counsel of all these my
" Lords. Whereupon I mov'd

" you, my Lord of *Canterbury*,
" first to have your Licence, in
" as much as you were Metro-
" politan, to put this Matter in
" question; and so I did of all
" you, my Lords." *Hollingshead*,
ibid. p. 908.

THEOBALD.

Prove

430 KING HENRY VIII.

Prove but our marriage lawful, by my life
And kingly dignity, we are contented
To wear our mortal state to come, with her,
Catharine our Queen, before the primest creature
* That's paragon'd i'th' world.

Cam. So please your Highness,
The Queen being absent, 'tis a needful fitness
That we adjourn this Court to further day;
Mean while must be an earnest motion
Made to the Queen, to call back her appeal
She intends to his Holiness.

[They rise to depart. The King speaks to Cranmer.]

King. I may perceive,
These Cardinals trifle with me; I abhor
This dilatory sloth, and tricks of *Rome*.
My learn'd and well beloved servant *Cranmer*,
Pr'ythee, return! with thy approach, I know,
My comfort comes along.—Break up the Court.
—I say, set on. *[Exeunt, in manner as they enter'd.]*

* *That's paragon'd i'th' world.* — *The primest creature*
Hanmer reads, I think, better, *That's paragon o'th' world.*

A C T I I I. S C E N E I.

The Queen's Apartment.

The Queen and her Women, as at Work.

Q U E E N.

TAKE thy lute, wench, my soul grows sad with troubles :
Sing, and disperse 'em, if thou canst: leave working.

S O N G.

ORpheus with his lute made trees,
And the mountain-tops, that freeze,
Bow themselves when he did sing.
To his musick, plants and flowers
Ever sprung, as sun and showers
There had made a lasting spring.
Ev'ry thing that heard him play,
Ev'n the billows of the sea,
Hung their Heads, and then lay by.
In sweet musick is such art,
Killing care, and grief of heart
Fall asleep, or bearing die.

Enter a Gentleman.

Queen. How now ?

Gent. An't please your Grace, the two great Cardinals

Wait in the presence.

Queen. Would they speak with me ?

Gent. They will'd me say so, Madam.

Queen. Pray their Graces

To come near. What can be their business

With

With me, a poor weak woman, fall'n from favour?

[*Exit Messenger.*]

I do not like their coming. Now I think on't,

¹ They should be good men, their affairs are righteous,
But all hoods make not monks.

Enter the Cardinals Wolfey and Campeius.

Wol. Peace to your Highness!

Queen. Your Graces find me here part of a house-
wife,

I would be all against the worst may happen.

What are your pleasures with me, rev'rend Lords?

Wol. May't please you, noble Madam, to with-
draw

Into your private chamber; we shall give you

The full cause of our coming.

Queen. Speak it here.

There's nothing I have done yet, o' my conscience,

Deserves a corner; 'would, all other women

Could speak this with as free a soul as I do!

My Lords, I care not, so much I am happy

Above a number, if my actions

Were try'd by ev'ry tongue, ev'ry eye saw 'em,

² Envy and base opinion set against 'em;

I know my life so even. If your business

¹ *They should be good men, their affairs are righteous,*] Affairs for professions; and then the sense is clear and pertinent. The proposition is, they are priests. The illation, therefore they are good men; for being understood: But if *affairs* be interpreted in its common signification, the sentence is absurd.

WARBURTON.

The sentence has no great difficulty; *affairs* means not their present errand, but the business of their calling.

² *Envy and base opinion set against 'em.*] I would be glad that my conduct were in some publick trial confronted with my enemies, that envy and corrupt judgment might try their utmost power against me.

Do seek me out, and that way I am wise in,
but with it boldly. Truth loves open dealing.

Wol. Tanta est erga te mentis integritas, Regina Serenissima,——

Queen. O, good my Lord, no *Latin*;
am not such a truant, since my coming,
Is not to know the language I have liv'd in.
A strange tongue makes my cause more strange, sus-
picious.

Pray, speak in *English*; here are some will thank you,
if you speak truth, for their poor mistress' sake.
Believe me, she has had much wrong. Lord Cardinal,
The willing'st sin I ever yet committed,
May be absolv'd in *English*.

Wol. Noble lady,
I'm sorry my integrity should breed,
And service to his Majesty and you,
So deep suspicion, where all faith was meant.
We come not by the way of accusation
To taint that honour every good tongue blesses,
Nor to betray you any way to sorrow,
You have too much, good lady) but to know
How you stand minded in the weighty difference
Between the King and you; and to deliver,
Like free and honest men, our just opinions
And comforts to your cause.

Cam. Most honour'd Madam,
My Lord of York, out of his noble nature
Zeal and obedience he still bore your Grace,
Forgetting, like a good man, your late censure
Both of his truth and him, which was too far,

³ ———and that way I am wise
in.] That is, if you come
examine the title by which I
am the king's wife; or, if you
me to know how I have be-
oved as a wife. The meaning,
whatever it be, is so coarsely

and unskilfully expressed, that
the latter Editors have liked non-
sense better, and, contrarily to
the antient and only copy, have
published,

And that way I am wise in.

Offers, as I do, in a sign of peace
His service and his counsel.—

Queen. To betray me.

My Lords, I thank you both for your good wills,
Ye speak like honest men ; pray God, ye prove so !
But how to make ye suddenly an answer
In such a point of weight, so near mine honour,
More near my life I fear, with my weak wit,
And to such men of gravity and learning,
In truth I know not. I was set at work
Among my maids ; full little, God knows, looking
Either for such men, or such business.
For her sake that I have been, for I feel
The last fit of my greatness, good your Graces,
Let me have time and council for my cause.
Alas ! I am a woman, friendless, hopeless.

Wol. Madam, you wrong the King's love with
those fears,
Your hopes and friends are infinite.

Queen. In England

But little for my profit ; can you think, Lords,
That any *English* man dare give me counsel ?
Or be a known friend 'gainst his Highness' pleasure,
* Though he be grown so desp'rate to be honest,
And live a subject ? Nay, forsooth, my friends,
They that must weigh out my afflictions,
They that my trust must grow to, live not here ;
They are, as all my comforts are, far hence,
In my own country, Lords.

* *Though he be grown so desp'rate to be honest.*] Do you think that any *Englishman* dare advise me ; or, if any man should venture to advise with honesty, that he could live ?

—*weigh out my afflictions.*] This phrase is obscure. To *weigh out*, is, in modern language, to

deliver by weight ; but this sense cannot be here admitted. To *weigh* is likewise to *deliberate upon, to consider with due attention*. This may, perhaps, be meant. Or the phrase, to *weigh out*, may signify to *counterbalance, to counteract with equal force*.

Cam. I would your Grace
Would leave your griefs, and take my counsel.

Queen. How, Sir?

Cam. Put your main cause into the King's protection;

He's loving and most gracious. 'Twill be much
Both for your honour better, and your cause;
For if the trial of the law o'er-take you,
You'll part away disgrac'd.

Wol. He tells you rightly.

Queen. Ye tell me what ye wish for both, my ruin.
Is this your christian counsel? Out upon you!
Heav'n is above all yet; there sits a judge,
That no King can corrupt.

Cam. Your rage mistakes us.

Queen. 'The more shame for you; holy men I
thought you,

Upon my soul, two rev'rend Cardinal virtues,
But Cardinal sins, and hollow hearts, I fear you;
Mend 'em for shame, my Lords. Is this your comfort?

The Cordial that you bring a wretched lady?
A woman lost among you, laugh'd at, scorn'd?

I will not wish you half my miseries,
I have more charity. But say, I warn'd ye;
Take heed, take heed, for heav'n's sake, lest at once
The burden of my sorrows fall upon you.

Wol. Madam; this is a meer distraction;
Ye turn the good we offer into envy.

Queen. Ye turn me into nothing. Wo upon you
And all such false professors! would ye have me,
If ye have any justice, any pity,
If ye be any thing but churchmens' habits,

* *The more shame for you.*] If *rine* might have kept her from
I mistake you, it is by your fault, the quibble to which she is irre-
not mine; for I thought you sistibly tempted by the word Car-
good. The distress of *Cutha-* *dinal.*

Put my sick cause into his hands that hates me ?
 Alas ! h'as banish'd me his bed already ;
 His love, too long ago. I'm old, my Lords ;
 And all the fellowship I hold now with him
 Is only my obedience. What can happen
 To me, above this wretchedness ? all your studies,
 Make me a curse, like this !

Cam. Your fears are worse——

Queen. Have I liv'd thus long—let me speak myself,
 Since virtue finds no friends—a wife, a true one ?
 A woman, I dare say, without vain-glory,
 Never yet branded with suspicion ?
 Have I, with all my full affections
 Still met the King ? lov'd him next heav'n ? obey'd
 him ?

Been, out of fondness, ⁷ superstitious to him ?
 Almost forgot my prayers to content him ?
 And am I thus rewarded ? 'Tis not well, Lords.
 Bring me a constant woman to her husband,
 One, that ne'er dream'd a joy beyond his pleasure ;
 And to that woman, when she has done most,
 Yet will I add an honour ; a great patience.

Wol. Madam, you wander from the good we aim at.

Queen. My Lord, I dare not make myself so guilty,
 To give up willingly that noble title
 Your master wed me to ; nothing but death
 Shall e'er divorce my dignities.

Wol. Pray, hear me——

Queen. 'Would I had never trod this *English* earth,
 Or felt the flatteries that grow upon it !
 ' Ye've angels' faces, but heav'n knows your hearts.
 What shall become of me now ! wretched lady !
 I am the most unhappy woman living.

⁷ — *superstitious to him.*]
 That is, served him with super-
 stitious attention ; done more than
 was required.

⁸ *Ye've angels' faces.*] She may
 perhaps allude to the old juggle
 of *Angli* and *Angeli*.

—Alas! poor wenches, where are now your fortunes?

[To her women.]

Ship-wreck'd upon a kingdom, where no pity,
No friends, no hope, no kindred weep for me,
Almost, no grave allow'd me. Like the lilly,
That once was mistress of the field and flourish'd,
I'll hang my head; and perish.

Wol. If your Grace

Could but be brought to know, our ends are honest;
You'd feel more comfort. Why should we good lady,
Upon what cause, wrong you? alas! our places,
The way of our profession is against it,
We are to cure such sorrows, not to sow 'em.
For goodness' sake, consider what you do;
How you may hurt yourself, nay, utterly
Grow from the King's acquaintance by this carriage.
The hearts of Princes kiss obedience,
So much they love it; but to stubborn spirits,
They swell and grow as terrible as storms.
I know, you have a gentle, noble temper,
A soul as-even as a calm; pray, think us
Those we profess, peace-makers, friends and servants.

Cam. Madam, you'll find it so. You wrong your
virtues

With these weak womens' fears. A noble spirit,
As yours was put into you, ever casts
Such doubts, as false coin, from it. The King loves
you;

Beware, you lose it not; for us, if you please
To trust us in your business, we are ready
To use our utmost studies in your service.

Queen. Do what you will, my Lords; and, pray,
forgive me,

If I have us'd myself unmannerly.
You know, I am a woman, lacking wit
To make a seemly answer to such persons.
Pray, do my service to his Majesty,
He has my heart yet; and shall have my prayers,

While I shall have my life. Come, rev'rend fathers;
Bestow your counsels on me. She now begs,
That little thought, when she set footing here,
She should have bought her dignities so dear. [*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E II.

Antechamber to the King's Apartments.

*Enter Duke of Norfolk, Duke of Suffolk, Lord Surrey,
and Lord Chamberlain.*

Nor. **I**F you will now unite in your complaints,
And⁹ force them with a constancy, the Car-
dinal

Cannot stand under them. If you omit
The offer of this time, I cannot promise,
But that you shall sustain more new disgraces,
With these you bear already.

Sur. I am joyful

To meet the least occasion that may give me
Remembrance of my father-in-law, the Duke,
To be reveng'd on him.

Suf. Which of the peers
Have uncontern'd gone by him, ' or at least
Strangely neglected? when did he regard

The

⁹ Force is enforce, urge.

¹ ——— or at least

STRANGELY neglected? ———]

The plain sense requires us to
read, STOOD NOT neglected.

WARBURTON.

Dr. Warburton's alteration
makes a more correct sentence,
but in our authour's licentious
English, the passage, as it stands,
means the same as, *which of the
peers has not gone by him con-
tempted or neglected.*

² ——— when did he regard

The stamp of nobleness in any
person

Out of himself? The ex-
pression is bad, and the thought
false. For it supposes *Wolsey* to
be noble, which was not so: we
should read and point,

——— when did he regard

The stamp of nobleness in any
person;

Out of't himself?

i. e. when did he regard nobles

The stamp of nobleness in any person
Out of himself?

Cham. My Lords, you speak your pleasures.
What he deserves of you and me, I know;
What we can do to him, though now the time
Give way to us, I much fear. If you cannot
Bar his access to the King, never attempt
Any thing on him; for he hath a witchcraft
Over the King in's tongue.

Nor. O, fear him not,
His spell in that is out; the King hath found
Matter against him, that for ever mars
The honey of his language. No, he's settled;
Not to come off, in his most high displeasure.

Sur. I should be glad to hear such news as this
Once every hour.

Nor. Believe it, this is true.
In the Divorce, his ³ contrary proceedings
Are all unfolded; wherein he appears,
As I would wish mine enemy.

Sur. How came
His practices to light?

Suf. Most strangely.

Sur. How?

Suf. The Cardinal's letters to the Pope miscarried,
And came to th' eye o'th' King; wherein was read,
How that the Cardinal did entreat his Holiness
To stay the Judgment o'th' Divorce; for if
It did take place, I do, quoth he, perceive
My King is 'tangled in affection to
A creature of the Queen's, lady *Anne Bullen*.

ness of blood in another; having none of his own to value himself upon. *WARBURTON.*

I do not think this correction proper. The meaning of the present reading is easy. *When did he*, however careful to carry

his own dignity to its utmost height, regard any dignity of another.

³ *Contrary proceedings.*] Private practices opposite to his public procedure.

Sur. Has the King this?

Suf. Believe it.

Sur. Will this work?

Cham. The King in this perceives him, how he costs
 * And hedges his own way. But in this point
 All his tricks founder, and he brings his physick
 After his patients death; the King already
 Hath married the fair lady.

Sur. 'Would he had!

Suf. May you be happy in your wish, my Lord,
 For, I profess, you have it.

Sur. Now all joy
 † Trace the conjunction!

Suf. My Amen to't!

Nor. All mens'!

Suf. There's order given for her Coronation.
 Marry, this is yet but young; and may be left
 To some ears unrecounted; but, my Lords,
 She is a gallant creature, and compleat
 In mind and feature. I persuade me, from her
 Will fall some blessing to this land, which shall
 In it be memoriz'd,

Sur. But will the King
 Digest this letter of the Cardinal's?
 The Lord forbid!

Nor. Marry, Amen.

Suf. No, no:
 There be more wasps, that buz about his nose,
 Will make this sting the sooner. Cardinal Campeius
 Is stoln away to Rome, has ta'en no leave,
 Hath left the cause o'th' King unhandled; and

* And HEDGES his own way.]
 It is not said, that the King per-
 ceives how he *obstructs* his own
 way; but how *obliquely* he pur-
 sues it; we should read, there-
 fore, EDGES his own way.

WARBURTON.

To *hedge*, is, to creep along
 by the hedge; not to take the
 direct and open path, but to
 steal covertly through circumvo-
 lutions.

† To *trace*, is, to follow.

posted, as the agent of our Cardinal,
to second all his plot. I do assure you,
the King cry'd, *Ha!* at this.

Cham. Now, God incense him;
and let him cry, ha, louder!

Nor. But, my Lord,
When returns *Cranmer*?

Suf. He is return'd with his opinions, which
have satisfy'd the King for his Divorce,
gather'd from all the famous colleges
almost in Christendom; shortly, I believe,
his second marriage shall be publish'd, and
his Coronation. *Catharine* no more
shall be call'd Queen; but Princess dowager,
and widow to Prince *Arthur*.

Nor. This same *Cranmer's*
worthy fellow, and hath ta'en much pain
in the King's business.

Suf. He has, and we shall see him
for it an Archbishop.

Nor. So I hear.

Suf. 'Tis so.

Enter Wolsey and Cromwell.

the Cardinal——

Nor. Observe, observe, he's moody.

Wol. The packet, *Cromwell*,
have it you the King?

Crom. To his own hand, in's bed-chamber.

Wol. Look'd he o'th'inside of the paper?

Crom. Presently
he did unseal them, and the first he view'd,
he did it with a serious mind; a heed
was in his countenance. You he bade
attend him here this morning.

Wol. Is he ready
to come abroad?

Crom.

Crom. I think, by this he is.

Wol. Leave me a while.

[*Exit Cromwell.*]

It shall be to the Dutchess of *Alanson*,

The *French* King's sister; he shall marry her.

Anne Bullen! no, I'll no *Anne Bullens* for him,—

There's more in't than fair visage—*Bullen*!—

No, we'll no *Bullens*!—speedily, I wish

To hear from *Rome*—The marchioness of *Pembroke*?—

Nor. He's discontented.

Suf. May be, he hears the King

Does whet his anger to him.

Sur. Sharp enough,

Lord, for thy justice!

Wol. [*Aside.*] The late Queen's gentlewoman, a
Knight's daughter,

To be her mistress' mistress? the Queen's Queen?—

This candle burns not clear, 'tis I must snuff it,

Then out it goes—what though I know her virtuous,

And well deserving? yet I know her for

A spleeny *Lutheran*; and not wholesome to

Our cause, that she should lie i'th' bosom of

Our hard rul'd King. Again, there is sprung up

An heretick, an arch one, *Craumer*; one,

Hath crawl'd into the favour of the King,

And is his oracle.

Nor. He's vex'd at something,

S C E N E III.

Enter King, reading of a schedule; and Lovell.

Sur. I would, 'twere something 'that would fret the
string,

The master cord of's heart!

Suf. The King, the King,

King. What piles of wealth hath he accumulated

To his own portion! what expence by th' hour

Seems to flow from him! how, i'th' name of thrift,

Does

es he take this together!—Now, my Lords;
v you the Cardinal?

Nor. My Lord, we have.

od here observing him; some strange Commotion
in his brain; he bites his lip, and starts,
ops on a sudden, looks upon the ground,
en lays his finger on his temple; strait,
rings out into fast gait, then stops again,
ikes his breast hard, and then anon he casts
is eye against the moon; in most strange postures
e've seen him set himself.

King. It may well be,
ere is a mutiny in's mind. This morning
pers of state he sent me to peruse,
s I requir'd; and, wot you, what I found
here, on my conscience put unwittingly?
orsooth, an inventory, thus importing,
he several parcels of his plate, his treasure,
ich stuffs and ornaments of household, which
find at such proud rate, that it out-speaks
offession of a subject.

Nor. It's heav'n's will;
ome spirit put this paper in the packet,
o blefs your eye withal.

King. If we did think,
his contemplations were above the earth,
nd fix'd on spiritual objects, he should still
well in his musings; but, I am afraid,
his thinkings are below the moon, nor worth
his serious considering.

*[He takes his seat, whispers Lovell, who goes to
Wolfey.]*

Wel. Heav'n forgive me——
ver God blefs your Highness!——

King. Good my Lord,
ou are full of heav'nly stuff, and bear the inventory
f your best graces in your mind, the which
ou were now running o'er; you have scarce time

To

444 KING HENRY VIII.

To steal from spiritual leisure a brief span,
To keep your earthly audit; sure, in that
I deem you an ill husband, and am glad
To have you therein my companion.

Wol. Sir,

For holy offices I have a time;
A time, to think upon the part of business
I bear i'th' state; and nature does require
Her times of preservation, which, perforce,
I her frail son, amongst my brethren mortal,
Must give my tendance to.

King. You have said well.

Wol. And ever may your Highness yoke together,
As I will lend you cause, my doing well
With my well saying!

King. 'Tis well said again;
And 'tis a kind of good deed to say well,
And yet words are no deeds. My father lov'd you;
He said; he did, and with his deed did crown
His word upon you. Since I had my office,
I've kept you next my heart; have not alone
Imploy'd you where high profits might come home,
But par'd my present havings, to bestow
My bounties upon you.

Wol. What should this mean?

[*Aside.*

Sur. The Lord increase this business!

[*Aside.*

King. Have I not made you
The prime man of the state? I pray, tell me,
If what I now pronounce, you have found true;
And, if you may confess it, say withal,
If you are bound to us, or no. What say you?

Wol. My Sovereign, I confess your royal graces
Shower'd on me daily have been more than could
My studied purposes requite, which went
Beyond all man's endeavours. My endeavours

Have

* Beyond all man's endeavours. But the *Oxford Editor*,
vours. —] Endeavours for not knowing the sense in which
the

Have ever come too short of my desires,
 ' Yet, fill'd with my abilities; mine own Ends
 Have been mine so, that evermore they pointed
 To th' good of your most sacred person, and
 The profit of the state. For your great graces
 Heap'd upon me, poor un-deserver, I
 Can nothing render but allegiant thanks,
 My prayers to heav'n for you; my loyalty,
 Which ever has, and ever shall be growing,
 'Till death, that winter, kill it.

King. Fairly answer'd;
 A loyal and obedient subject is
 Therein illustrated; the honour of it
 Does pay the act of it, as ' o'th' contrary,
 The foulness is the punishment. I presume,
 That as my hand has open'd bounty to you,
 My heart dropp'd love, my pow'r rain'd honour more
 On you, than any; so your hand and heart,
 Your brain, and every function of your power,
 Should ' notwithstanding that your bond of Duty,
 As 'twere in love's particular, be more
 To me, your friend, than any.

Wol. I profess,
 That for your Highness' good I ever labour'd,
 More than mine own; that am I, have been, will be:

he word is here used, alters it
 ambition. *WARBURTON.*

To put *ambition* in the place
endeavours is certainly wrong;
 and to explain *endeavours* by *de-*
arts is not right. The sense,
 and that not very difficult, is, my
purposes went beyond all human
endeavour, I purpos'd for your
 honour more than it falls within
 the compass of man's nature to
 attempt.

7 *Yet, fill'd with my abilities.*]
 My endeavours, though less than
 my desires, have fill'd; that is,

gone an equal pace with my abi-
 lities.

8 ——— o'th' contrary

The foulness is the punishment.]
 So *Hannor*. The rest read, i'th'
 contrary.

9 —notwithstanding that your
bond of duty.] Besides the
 general bond of duty by which
 you are obliged to be a loyal and
 obedient subject, you owe a par-
 ticular devotion of yourself to
 me, as your particular benefac-
 tor.

Though

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Though all the world should crack their duty to you,
And throw it from their soul; though perils did
Abound, as thick as thought could make 'em, and
Appear in forms more horrid; yet my duty,
As doth a rock against the chiding flood,
Should the approach of this wild river break,
And stand unshaken yours.

King. 'Tis nobly spoken;
Take notice, Lords, he has a loyal breast,
For you have seen him open't. Read o'er this,
[*Giving him papers.*]
And, after, this; and then to breakfast, with
What appetite you may.

[*Exit King, frowning upon Cardinal Wolsey; the Nobles throng after him, whispering and smiling.*]

S C E N E IV.

Wol. What should this mean?
What sudden anger's this? how have I reap'd it?
He parted frowning from me, as if ruin
Leap'd from his eyes. So looks the chafed lion
Upon the daring huntsman that has gall'd him,
Then makes him nothing. I must read this paper:
I fear, the story of his anger—'tis so——
This paper has undone me—'tis th' account
Of all that world of wealth I've drawn together
For mine own ends; indeed, to gain the Popedom,
And see my friends in *Rome*. O negligence,
Fit for a fool to fall by! What cross devil
Made me put this main secret in the packet
I sent the King? Is there no way to cure this?
No new device to beat this from his brains?
I know, 'twill stir him strongly; yet I know
A way, if it take right, in spite of fortune
Will bring me off again. What's this—*To the Pope?*
The letter, as I live, with all the business
I writ to's Holiness. Nay, then farewell;

I've

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I've touch'd the highest point of all my Greatness,
And from that full meridian of my glory
I haste now to my setting. I shall fall,
Like a bright exhalation in the evening;
And no man see me more.

S C E N E V.

*Enter to Wolsey, the Dukes of Norfolk and Suffolk,
the Earl of Surrey, and the Lord Chamberlain.*

Nor. Hear the King's pleasure, Cardinal, who
commands you
To render up the Great Seal presently
Into our hands, and to confine yourself
To *Asber-house*, my Lord of *Winchester's*,
'Till you hear further from his Highness.

Wol. Stay.

Where's your commission, Lords? words cannot carry
Authority so mighty.

Suf. Who dare cross 'em,
Bearing the King's will from his mouth expressly?

Wol. 'Till I find more than will, or words to do it,
(I mean, your malice;) know, officious Lords,

I

'Till I find more than will, or
words to do it,
(I mean your malice;) know—
I dare—deny it.] They bid
him render up his seal. He an-
swers, *where's your commission?*
They say, *we bear the King's
will from his mouth.* He re-
plies, *'Till I find, &c. i. e. all
the will or words I yet discover
proceed from your malice; and,
'till I find more than that, I
shall not comply with your de-
mand. One would think this
plain enough; yet the Oxford*

Editor, in the rage of emenda-
tion, alters the line thus,

*W'ilst I find more than his will,
or words to do it,*

I mean your malice, &c.

which bears this noble sense,
worthy a wise Lord Chancellor;
Whilst I find your malice joined
to the King's will and pleasure,
I shall not obey that will and
pleasure.

WARBURTON.

Wolsey had said,

—words cannot carry

Authority so mighty.

to which they reply, *Who dare
cross*

I dare, and must deny it. Now I feel
 Of what coarse metal ye are moulded,——*Envy*.
 How eagerly ye follow my disgrace,
 As if it fed ye; and how sleek, and wanton,
 Y'appear in every thing may bring my ruin.
 Follow your envious courses, men of malice;
 You've christian warrant for 'em, and, no doubt,
 In time will find their fit rewards. That Seal,
 You ask with such a violence, the King,
 Mine and your master, with his own hand gave me,
 Bad me enjoy it, with the place and honours,
 During my life; and, to confirm his goodness,
 Ty'd it by letters patent. Now, who'll take it?

Sur. The King, that gave it.

Wol. It must be himself then.

Sur. Thou'rt a proud traitor, priest.

Wol. Proud Lord, thou liest;

Within these forty hours *Surrey* durst better
 Have burnt that tongue, than said so.

Sur. Thy ambition,
 Thou scarlet sin, robb'd this bewailing land
 Of noble *Buckingham*, my father-in-law.
 The heads of all thy brother Cardinals,
 With thee, and all thy best parts bound together,
 Weigh'd not a hair of his. Plague on your policy!
 You sent me Deputy for *Ireland*,
 Far from his succour, from the King, from all,
 That might have mercy on the fault, thou gav'st him,
 Whilst your great goodness, out of holy pity,
 Absolv'd him with an ax.

Wol. This, and all else
 This talking Lord can lay upon my credit,
 I answer, is most false. The Duke by law

cross 'em, &c. Wolsey, answering them, continues his own speech. 'Till I find more than will or words (I mean more than your malicious

will and words) to do it; that is, to carry authority so mighty; I will deny to return what the King has given me.

Found

Found his deserts. How innocent I was
 From any private malice in his end,
 His noble jury and foul cause can witness.
 If I lov'd many words, Lord, I should tell you,
 You have as little honesty as honour;
 That I, i'th' way of loyalty and truth
 Toward the King, my ever royal master,
 Dare mate a sounder man than *Surrey* can be,
 And all that love his follies.

Sur. By my soul,
 Your long coat, priest, protects you; thou should'st
 feel

My sword i'th' life blood of thee else. My Lords,
 Can ye endure to hear this arrogance?
 And from this fellow? if we live thus tamely,
 To be thus jaded by a piece of scarlet,
 Farewel, nobility; let his Grace go forward,
 And dare us with his cap, like larks.

Wol. All goodness
 Is poison to thy stomach.

Sur. Yes, that goodness,
 Of gleaning all the land's wealth into one,
 Into your own hands, *Card'pal*, by extortion;
 The goodness of your intercepted packets
 You writ to th' Pope, against the King; your goodness,
 Since you provoke me shall be most notorious.
 My Lord of *Norfolk*, as you're truly noble,
 As you respect the common good, the state
 Of our despis'd nobility, our issues,
 Who, if he live, will scarce be gentlemen;
 Produce the grand sum of his sins, the articles
 Collected from his life. I'll startle you,
 * Worse than the sacring bell, when the brown wench

* *Worse than the sacring Bell.*]
 The little bell which is rung
 to give notice of the *Host* ap-
 proaching when it is carried in
 Procession, as also in other of-

fices of the *Romish* Church, is cal-
 led the *Sacring*, or *Consecration*
Bell; from the *French* Word,
Sacer.

THEOBALD.

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Lay kissing in your arms, Lord Cardinal.

Wol. How much, methinks, I could despise this man,

But that I'm bound in charity against it!

Nor. Those articles, my Lord, are in th' King's hand:

But thus much, they are foul ones.

Wol. So much fairer,
And spotless, shall mine innocence arise;
When the King knows my truth.

Sur. This cannot save you:
I thank my memory, I yet remember
Some of these articles, and out they shall.
Now, if you can, blush, and cry *guilty*, Cardinal:
You'll shew a little honesty.

Wol. Speak on, Sir,
I dare your worst objections. If I blush,
It is to see a nobleman want manners.

Sur. I'd rather want those than my head; have at you.

First, that without the King's assent, or knowledge,
You wrought to be a legate; by which power
You maimed the jurisdiction of all bishops.

Nor. Then, that in all you writ to *Rome*, or else
To foreign princes, *Ego & Rex meus*
Was still inscrib'd; in which you brought the King
To be your servant.

Suf. That without the knowledge
Either of King or Council, when you went
Ambassador to th' Emperor, you made bold
To carry into *Flanders* the great Seal.

Sur. Item. You sent a large commission
To *Gregory de Cassado*, to conclude,
Without the King's will or the state's allowance,
A league between his Highness and *Ferrara*.

Suf. That out of meer ambition, you have made
Your holy hat be stamp't on the King's coin.

Sur.

K I N G H E N R Y V I I I. 451

Sur. Then, that you have sent innumerable substance

By what means got, I leave to your own conscience)
To furnish *Rams*; and to prepare the ways
You have for dignities, to th' meer undoing
Of all the kingdom. Many more there are,
Which, since they are of you, and odious,
I will not taint my mouth with.

Cham. O, my Lord,
Press not a falling man too far; 'tis virtue:
His faults lie open to the laws; let them,
Not you, correct him. My heart weeps to see him
So little of his great self.

Sur. I forgive him.

Suf. Lord Cardinal, the King's further pleasure is,
Because all those things you have done of late,
By your power legateine within this kingdom,
Fall in the compass of a *Premunire*,
That therefore such a writ be sued against you,
To forfeit all you goods, lands, tenements,
Chattels, and whatsoever, and to be
Out of the King's protection. This is my charge.

Nor. And so we'll leave you to your meditations
How to live better. For your stubborn answer,
About the giving back the great Seal to us,
The King shall know it; and, no doubt, shall thank
you.

So fare you well, my little good Lord Cardinal.

[*Exeunt all but Wolsey.*]

* In former Editions :

Castles, and whatsoever.] I
have ventur'd to substitute *Chattels* here, as the Author's genuine Word, because the Judgment in a Writ of *Premunire* is, that the Defendant shall be out of the King's Protection; and his Lands

and Tenements, Goods and CHATTELS forfeited to the King; and that his Body shall remain in prison at the King's pleasure. This very Description of the *Premunire* is set out by *Holingshead* in his *Life of K. Henry VII.* p. 909. THROBALD.

S C E N E VI.

Wol. So farewell to the little good you bear me.
 Farewel, a long farewell to all my greatness!
 This is the state of man; to-day he puts forth
 The tender leaves of hopes, to-morrow blossoms,
 And bears his blushing honours thick upon him,
 The third day comes a frost, a killing frost,
 And when he thinks, good easy man, full surely
 His greatness is a ripening, ⁴ nips his root;
 And then he falls, as I do. I have ventur'd,
 Like little wanton boys, that swim on bladders,
 These many summers in a sea of glory,
 But far beyond my depth; my high blown pride
 At length broke under me, and now has left me,
 Weary and old with service, to the mercy
 Of a rude stream, that must for ever hide me.
 Vain pomp and glory of this world, I hate ye;
 I feel my heart new open'd. Oh, how wretched
 Is that poor man, that hangs on Princes' favours!
 There is, betwixt that smile we would aspire to,
 That sweet aspect of Princes, and our ruin,
 More pangs and fears than war or women have;

⁴ —Nips his root;] As spring frosts are not injurious to the roots of fruit trees, I should imagine the poet wrote shoot, i. e. that tender shoot on which are the young leaves and blossoms. The comparison as well as expression of nips is juster too in this reading. He has the same thought in *Love's Labour Lost*.

Byron is like an envious sneaping frost

That bites the first-born infants of the spring.

So Milton in Sampson Agonistes,

Abortive as the first-born bloom of spring,

Nip'd with the lagging rear of winter's frost.

which seems to be taken from the place in question.

WARBURTON.

Here is a long note. But at last we may as well continue the ancient reading. Vernal frosts indeed do not kill the root, but then to nip the shoots does not kill the tree or make it fall. The metaphor will not in either reading correspond exactly with nature.

And,

And, when he falls, he falls like *Lucifer*,
Never to hope again.

Enter Cromwell, standing amaz'd.

Why, how now, *Cromwell*?

Crom. I have no power to speak, Sir.

Wol. What, amaz'd

At my misfortunes? can thy spirit wonder,
A great man should decline? nay, if you weep,
'm fall'n indeed

Crom. How does your Grace?

Wol. Why, well;

Never so truly happy, my good *Cromwell*.

I know myself now, and I feel within me

A peace above all earthly dignities;

A still and quiet conscience. The King has cur'd me,

I humbly thank his Grace; and, from these shoulders,

These ruin'd pillars, out of pity taken

A load would sink a navy, too much honour.

O, 'tis a burden, *Cromwell*, 'tis a burden,

Too heavy for a man that hopes for heav'n.

Crom. I'm glad your Grace has made that right
use of it.

Wol. I hope, I have. I'm able now methinks,

Out of a fortitude of soul I feel,

To endure more miseries, and greater far,

Than my weak-hearted enemies dare offer.

What news abroad?

Crom. The heaviest, and the worst,
Is your displeasure with the King.

Wol. God bless him!

Crom. The next is, that Sir *Thomas More* is chosen
Lord Chancellor in your place.

Wol. That's somewhat sudden ———

But he's a learned man. May he continue

Long in his Highness' favour, and do justice

For truth's sake and his conscience; that his bones,

When he has run his course, and sleeps in blessing,
May have 'a tomb of orphans' tears ~~wept~~ on him!
What more?

Crom. That *Crommer* is return'd with welcome;
Install'd Lord Archbishop of *Canterbury*.

Wol. That's news, indeed.

Crom. Last, that the lady *Anne*,
Whom the King hath in secrecy long married,
This day was view'd in open, as his Queen,
Going to chapel; and the voice is now
Only about her Coronation.

Wol. There was the weight that pulled me down.
O *Cromwell*,

The King has gone beyond me; all my glories
In that one woman I have lost for ever.
No sun shall ever usher forth my honours,
Or gild again the noble troops, that waited
Upon my smiles. Go get thee from me, *Cromwell*;
I am a poor fall'n man, unworthy now
To be thy Lord and master. Seek the King;
That sun, I pray, may never set; I've told him
What and how true thou art; he will advance thee:
Some little memory of me will stir him,
I know his noble nature, not to let
Thy hopeful service perish too. Good *Cromwell*,
Neglect him not; make use now, and provide
For thine own future safety.

Crom. O my Lord,
Must I then leave you? must I needs forego
So good, so noble, and so true a master?
Bear witness, all that have not hearts of iron,
With what a sorrow *Cromwell* leaves his Lord.
The King shall have my service; but my prayers
For ever, and for ever, shall be yours.

^s A tomb of orphans' tears orphans. A tomb of tears is ver-
wept on him.] The Chan- ry harsh,
cellor is the general guardian of

Wol. Cromwell, I did not think to shed a tear
In all my miseries ; but thou hast forc'd me,
Out of thy honest truth, to play the woman.
Let's dry our eyes, and thus far hear me, *Cromwell* ;
And when I am forgotten, as I shall be,
And sleep in dull cold marble, where no mention
Of me must more be heard, say then I taught thee,
Say, ' *Wolsey*, that once trod the ways of glory,
And founded all the depths and shoals of honour,
Found thee a way, out of his wreck, to rise in,
A sure and safe one, though thy master miss'd it,
Mark but my fall, and that which ruin'd me ;
Cromwell, I charge thee, fling away ambition,
By that sin fell the angels ; how can man then,
The image of his Maker, hope to win by't ?
Love thyself last ; cherish those hearts, that hate thee ;
Corruption wins not more than honesty.

6 — *Wolsey, that once TROD the ways of glory.*] As the words, *founded, depths, shoals, wreck*, follow ; the uniformity of metaphor would dispose *Shakespeare* methinks to write here

— *RODE the WAVES of glory.*
So in *Troilus and Cressida*.

As if the passage and whole carriage of this action RODE on his TIDE.

WARBURTON.

7 — *cherish those hearts, that HATE thee :*] Though this be good divinity ; and an admirable precept for our conduct in private life ; it was never calculated or designed for the magistrate or publick minister. Nor could this be the direction of a man experienced in affairs to his pupil. It would make a good christian, but a very ill and very unjust statesman. And we have

nothing so infamous in tradition, as the supposed advice given to one of our kings, *to cherish his enemies and be in no pain for his friends*. I am of opinion the Poet wrote

— *cherish those hearts that WAIT thee.*

i. e. thy dependents. For the contrary practice had contributed to *Wolsey's* ruin. He was not careful enough in making dependents by his bounty, while intent in amassing wealth to himself. The following line seems to confirm this correction,

Corruption wins not more than honesty.

i. e. you will never find men won over to your temporary occasions by bribery so useful to you as friends made by a just and generous munificence.

WARBURTON.

456 KING HENRY VIII.

Still in thy right hand carry gentle peace,
To silence envious tongues. Be just, and fear not.
Let all the ends, thou aim'st at, be thy country's,
Thy God's, and Truth's; then if thou fall'st, O
Cromwell,

Thou fall'st a blessed martyr. Serve the King;
And—Pr'ythee, lead me in;
There, take an inventory of all I have;
To the last penny, 'tis the King's. My robe,
And my integrity to heav'n, is all

I dare now call mine own. O *Cromwell, Cromwell,*
* Had I but serv'd my God with half the zeal
I serv'd my King, he would not in mine age
Have left me naked to mine enemies.

Crom. Good Sir, have patience.

Wol. So I have. Farewel

The hopes of Court! my hopes in heav'n do dwell.

[*Exeunt.*]

ACT IV. SCENE I.

A Street in Westminster.

Enter two Gentlemen, meeting one another.

I GENTLEMAN.

YOU'RE well met¹ once again.

² *Gen.* And so are you.

¹ *Gen.* You come to take your stand here, and behold

The lady *Anne* pass from her Coronation.

² This sentence was really uttered by *Wolsey*. their former meeting in the second act.

¹—*once again.*] alluding to

² *Gen.*

KING HENRY VIII. 457

2 Gen. 'Tis all my business. At our last encounter,
The Duke of *Buckingham* came from his trial.

1 Gen. 'Tis very true. But that time offer'd for-
row ;

This, general joy.

2 Gen. 'Tis well ; the citizens,
I'm sure, have shewn at full their loyal minds,
And, let 'em have their rights, they're ever forward
In celebration of ² this day with shows,
Pageants, and fights of honour.

1 Gen. Never greater,
Nor, I'll assure you, better taken, Sir.

2 Gen. May I be bold to ask what that contains,
That paper in your hand ?

1 Gen. Yes, 'tis the list
Of those that claim their offices this day,
By custom of the Coronation.
The Duke of *Suffolk* is the first, and claims
To be High Steward ; next, the Duke of *Norfolk*,
To be Earl Marshal ; you may read the rest.

2 Gen. I thank you, Sir ; had I not known those
customs,

I should have been beholden to your paper.
But, I beseech you what's become of *Catharine*,
The Princess Dowager ? how goes her business ?

1 Gen. That I can tell you too ; the Archbishop
Of *Canterbury*, accompanied with other
Learn'd and rev'rend fathers of his order,
Held a late court at *Dunstable*, six miles
From *Amptbil*, where the princess lay ; to which
She oft was cited by them, but appear'd not :
And, to be short, for not appearance and
The King's late scruple, by the main assent

² — *this day*—] *Hammer* reads, om, which our author com-
these days, but *Shakespeare* meant monly prefers to grammatical
such a day as this, a coronation nicety.
day. And such is the *English* idi-

458 KING HENRY VIII.

Of all these learned men she was divorce'd,
And the late marriage made of none effect;
Since which, she was removed to Kimbolton,
Where she remains now sick.

2 Gen. Alas, good lady! —

The trumpets sound; stand close, the Queen is coming.
[Hautboys.]

The Order of the Coronation.

1. *A lively flourish of trumpets.*
 2. *Then, two Judges.*
 3. *Lord Chancellor, with the purse and mace before him.*
 4. *Choristers singing.* [Musick.]
 5. *Mayor of London, bearing the mace. Then Garter in his coat of arms, and on his head a gilt copper crown.*
 6. *Marquis of Dorset, bearing a scepter of gold, on his head a demi-coronal of gold. With him, the Earl of Surrey, bearing the rod of silver with the dove, crown'd with an Earl's Coronet. Collars of SS.*
 7. *Duke of Suffolk in his robe of state, his coronet on his head, bearing a long white wand, as High Steward. With him the Duke of Norfolk, with the rod of marshalship, a coronet on his head. Collars of SS.*
 8. *A canopy born by four of the Cinque ports, under it the Queen in her robe; in her hair richly adorned with pearl, crowned. On each side her, the bishops of London and Winchester.*
 9. *The old Dutches of Norfolk, in a coronal of gold, wrought with flowers, bearing the Queen's train.*
 10. *Certain Ladies or Countesses, with plain circlets of gold without flowers.*
- They pass over the stage in order and state, and then Exeunt, with a great flourish of trumpets.*

2 Gent.

KING HENRY VIII. 459

2 Gen. A royal train, believe me—these I know—
Who's that, who bears the Scepter?

1 Gen. Marquis *Dorset*.

And that the Earl of *Surrey*, with the rod.

2 Gen. A bold brave gentleman. That should be
The Duke of *Suffolk*.

1 Gen. 'Tis the same: High Steward.

2 Gen. And that my Lord of *Norfolk*.

1 Gen. Yes.

2 Gen. Heav'n bless thee! [*Looking on the Queen*]
Thou hast the sweetest face I ever look'd on.

Sir, as I have a soul, she is an angel;

Our King has all the *Indies* in his arms,

And more and richer, when he strains that lady;

I cannot blame his conscience.

1 Gen. They, that bear
The cloth of state above her, are four barons
Of the *Cinque-ports*.

2 Gen. Those men are happy; so are all, are near
her.

I take it, she that carries up the train,

Is that old noble lady, the dutchess of *Norfolk*.

1 Gen. It is, and all the rest are countesses.

2 Gen. Their coronets say so. These are stars in-
deed,

And sometimes falling ones.

1 Gen. No more of that.

Enter a third Gentleman.

God save you, Sir! Where have you been brolling?

3 Gen. Among the crowd i' th' Abbey, where a
finger

Could not be wedg'd in more; I am stifled,

With the meer rankness of their joy.

2 Gen. You saw the ceremony?

3 Gen. I did.

4 Gen. How was it?

3 Gen.

3 Gen. Well worth the seeing.

2 Gen. Good Sir, speak it to us.

3 Gen. As well as I am able. The rich stream
Of lords and ladies, having brought the Queen
To a prepar'd place in the choir, fell off
A distance from her; while her Grace sat down
To rest a while, some half an hour, or so,
In a rich chair of state; opposing freely
The beauty of her person to the people,
(Believe me, Sir, she is the goodliest woman,
That ever lay by man;) which when the people
Had the full view of, such a noise arose
As the shrouds make at sea in a stiff tempest,
As loud and to as many tunes. Hats, cloaks,
Doublets, I think, flew up; and had their faces
Been loose, this day they had been lost. Such joy
I never saw before. Great-bellied women,
That had not half a week to go, 'like rams
In the old time of war, would shake the press,
And make 'em reel before 'em. No man living
Could say, *this is my wife there*, all were woven
So strangely in one piece.

2 Gen. But, pray, what follow'd?

3 Gen. At length her Grace rose, and with modest
paces

Came to the altar, where she kneel'd; and, faint-like,
Cast her fair eyes to heav'n, and pray'd devoutly.
Then rose again, and bow'd her to the people;
When by the Archbishop of *Canterbury*,
Sh' had all the royal makings of a Queen;
As holy oil, *Edward* Confessor's Crown,
The rod, and bird of peace, and all such emblems
Laid nobly on her; which perform'd, the choir,
With all the choicest musick of the kingdom,
Together sung *Te Deum*. So she parted,
And with the same full state pac'd back again

3 ———like rams.] That is, like battering rams.

K I N G H E N R Y V I I I. 46.

To *York-Place*, where the feast is held.

1 *Gen.* You must no more call it *York-Place*, that's past.

For since the Cardinal fell, that title's lost,
'Tis now the King's, and call'd *Whitehall*.

3 *Gen.* I know it;
But 'tis so lately alter'd, that the old name
Is fresh about me.

2 *Gen.* What two reverend bishops
Were those that went on each side of the Queen?

3 *Gen.* *Stokesly* and *Gardiner*; the one of *Winchester*,
Newly preferr'd from the King's Secretary;
The other, *London*.

2 *Gen.* He of *Winchester*
Is held no great good lover of th' Archbishop,
The virtuous *Cranmer*.

3 *Gen.* All the land knows that;
However, yet there's no great breach; when 't comes,
Cranmer will find a friend will not shrink from him.

2 *Gen.* Who may that be, I pray you?

3 *Gen.* *Thomas Cromwell*,
A man in much esteem with th' King, and, truly,
A worthy friend. The King has made him
Master o'th' jewel-house,
And one, already, of the privy-council.

2 *Gen.* He will deserve more.

3 *Gen.* Yes, without all doubt.
Come, gentlemen, you shall go my way,
Which is to th' Court, and there shall be my guests;
Something I can command; as I walk thither,
I'll tell ye more.

Both. You may command us, Sir. [Exeunt.]

S C E N E.

462 KING HENRY VIII.

4 S C E N E II.

Changes to Kimbolton.

Enter Catharine Dowager, sick, led between Griffith her gentleman usher, and Patience her woman.

Grif. **H**OW does your Grace?
Cath. O Griffith, sick to death;
 My legs, like loaded branches, bow to th' earth,
 Willing to leave their burden. Reach a chair—
 So—Now methinks, I feel a little ease. [*Sitting down.*
 Didst thou not tell me, Griffith, as thou led'st me,
 That the great child of honour, Cardinal *Wolsey*,
 Was dead?

Grif. Yes, Madam; but I think, your Grace,
 Out of the pain you suffer'd, gave no ear to't.

Cath. Pr'ythee, good Griffith, tell me how he dy'd;
 If well, he slept before me happily,
 For my example.

Grif. Well, the voice goes, Madam.
 For after the stout Earl of *Northumberland*
 Arrested him at *York*, and brought him forward,
 As a man sorely tainted, to his answer,
 He fell sick suddenly, and grew so ill
 He could not sit his mule.

Cath. Alas, poor man!

Grif. At last, with easy roads he came to *Leicester*;
 Lodg'd in the Abbey; where the rev'rend Abbot,
 With all his Convent, honourably receiv'd him;
 To whom he gave these words, "O father Abbot,
 " An old man, broken with the storms of state,

* This scene is above any other part of *Shakespeare's* tragedies, and perhaps above any scene of any other poet, tender and pathetick, without gods, or furies, or poisons, or precipices,

without the help of romantick circumstances, without improbable sallies of poetical lamentation, and without any throes of tumultuous misery.

“ Is come to lay his weary bones among ye ;

“ Give him a little earth for charity !”

So went to bed ; where eagerly his sickness
Pursu'd him still, and three nights after this,
About the hour of eight, which he himself
Foretold, should be his last, full of repentance,
Continual meditations, tears and sorrows,
He gave his honours to the world again,
His blessed part to heav'n, and slept in peace.

Cath. So may he rest, his faults lie gently on him !
Yet thus far, *Griffith*, give me leave to speak him,
And yet with charity ; he was a man
Of an unbounded stomach, ever ranking
Himself with Princes ; ' one that by suggestion
Ty'd all the kingdom. Simony was fair play.
His own opinion was his law. I' th' Presence
He would say untruths, and be ever double
Both in his words and meaning. He was never,
But where he meant to ruin, pitiful.
His promises were, as he then was, mighty ;
But his performance, as he now is, nothing.
Of his own body he was ill, and gave
The Clergy ill example.

Grif. Noble madam,
Men's evil manners live in brass, their virtues
We write in water. May it please your Highness
To hear me speak his good now ?

⁵ —one, that by suggestion
Ty'd all the kingdom ; J. i. s.
by giving the King pernicious
counsel, he ty'd or enslaved the
kingdom. He uses the word
here with great propriety, and
seeming knowledge of the *Latin*
tongue. For the late *Roman*
writers and their glossers, agree
to give this sense to it : *SUG-*
GESTIO est cum magistratus qui-
libet principi salubre consilium sug-

gerit. So that nothing could be
severer than this refection, that
that wholesome counsel, which it
is the minister's duty to give his
prince, was so empoisoned by
him, as to produce slavery to his
country. Yet all this fine sense
vanishes instantaneously before
the touch of the *Oxford* Editor,
by his happy thought of chang-
ing Ty'd into Tyth'd.

WARBURTON.

Cath.

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Catb. Yes, good *Griffith*,
I were malicious else.

Griff. This Cardinal,
Though from an humble stock, undoubtedlly
Was fashion'd to much honour from his cradle ;
He was a scholar, and a ripe and good one,
Exceeding wise, fair-spoken, and persuading ;
Lofly and sour to them, that lov'd him not,
But to those men, that sought him, sweet as summer.
'And though he were unsatisfy'd in getting,
Which was a sin, yet in bestowing, Madam,
He was most princely : Ever witness for him
Those twins of learning that he rais'd in you,
Ipswich and *Oxford* ! one of which fell with him,
Unwilling to outlive the good he did it ;
The other, though unfinish'd, yet so famous,
So excellent in art, and still so rising,
That Christendom shall ever speak his virtue.
His overthrow heap'd happiness upon him ;
For then, and not till then, he felt himself,
And found the blessedness of being little :
And to add greater honours to his age
Than man could give him, he dy'd, fearing God.

Catb. After my death I wish no other herald,
No other speaker of my living actions,
To keep mine honour from corruption,
But such an honest chronicler as *Griffith*.
Whom I most hated living, thou hast made me,
With thy religious truth and modesty,
Now in his ashes honour. Peace be with him !
—*Patience*, be near me still, and set me lower.
I have not long to trouble thee. Good *Griffith*,
Cause the musicians play me that sad note,
I nam'd my knell ; whilst I sit meditating
On that celestial harmony I go to.

Sad

Sad and solemn musick.

Grif. She is asleep. Good wench, let's sit down quiet,
For fear we wake her. Softly, gentle *Patience*.

The vision. Enter solemnly one after another, six personages, clad in white robes, wearing on their heads garlands of bays, and golden vizards on their faces; branches of bays, or palm in their hands. They first congee unto her, then dance; and, at certain changes, the first two hold a spare garland over her head; at which, the other four make reverend courtesies; then the two, that held the garland, deliver the same to the other next two; who observe the same order in their changes, and holding the garland over her head, which done, they deliver the same garland to the last two, who likewise observe the same order; at which, as it were by inspiration, she makes in her sleep signs of rejoicing, and holdeth up her hands to heaven; and so in their dancing vanish, carrying the garland with them. The musick continues.

Cath. Spirits of peace; where are ye? are ye gone?
And leave me here in wretchedness behind ye?

Grif. Madam, we're here.

Cath. It is not you I call for;
Saw ye none enter, since I slept?

Grif. None, Madam.

Cath. No? saw you not e'en now a blessed troop
Invite me to a banquet, whose bright faces
Cast thousand beams upon me, like the sun?
They promised me eternal happiness,
And brought me garlands, *Griffith*, which I feel
I am not worthy yet to wear: I shall assuredly.

Grif. I am most joyful, Madam, such good dreams
Possess your fancy.

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II h

Cath.

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Catb. Bid the musick leave,
'Tis harsh and heavy to me. [Musick ceases.

Pat. Do you note,
How much her Grace is alter'd on the sudden?
How long her face is drawn? how pale she looks,
And of an earthly cold? observe her eyes.

Grif. She is going, wench. Pray, pray——

Pat. Heav'n comfort her.

Enter a Messenger.

Mes. An't like your Grace ——

Catb. You are a sawcy fellow,
Deserve we no more rev'rence?

Grif. You're to blame,
Knowing she will not lose her wonted greatness,
To use so rude behaviour. Go to, kneel.

Mes. [Kneeling.] I humbly do intreat your High-
ness' pardon;

My haste made me unmannerly. There is staying
A gentleman, sent from the King, to see you.

Catb. Admit him entrance, *Griffith.* But this
fellow

Let me ne'er see again. [Exit Messenger.

Enter Lord Capucius.

If my sight fail not,
You should be Lord ambassador from the Emperor,
My royal nephew; and your name *Capucius*.

Cap. Madam, the same, your servant.

Catb. O my Lord,
The times and titles are now alter'd strangely
With me, since first you knew me. But, I pray you,
What is your pleasure with me?

Cap. Noble lady,
First, mine own service to your Grace; the next,
The King's request that I would visit you,
Who grieves much for your weakness, and by me

Sends

Sends you his princely commendations,
And heartily intreats you take good comfort.

Cath. O my good Lord, that comfort comes too late ;

'Tis like a pardon after execution ;
That gentle physick, giv'n in time, had cur'd me ;
But now I'm past all comforts here, but prayers.
How does his Highness ?

Cap. Madam, in good health.

Cath. So may he ever do, and ever flourish,
When I shall dwell with worms, and my poor name
Banish'd the kingdom !—*Patience*, is that letter,
I caus'd you write, yet sent away ?

Pat. No, Madam.

Cath. Sir, I must humbly pray you to deliver
This to my Lord the King.

Cap. Most willing, Madam.

Cath. In which I have commended to his goodness
The model of our chaste loves, his young daughter ;
The dews of heav'n fall thick in blessings on her !
Beseeching him to give her virtuous breeding,
(She's young, and of a noble modest nature ;
I hope, she will deserve well) and a little
To love her for her mother's sake, that lov'd him,
Heav'n knows, how dearly. My next poor petition
Is, that his noble Grace would have some pity
Upon my wretched women, that so long
Have follow'd both my fortunes faithfully ;
Of which there is not one, I dare avow,
And now I should not lie, but well deserves,
For virtue and true beauty of the soul,
For honesty and decent carriage,
A right good husband, let him be a noble ;
And, sure, those men are happy, that shall have 'em.
The last is for my men ; they are the poorest,
But poverty could never draw 'em from me ;
That they may have their wages duly paid 'em,
And something over to remember me.

468 K I N G H E N R Y V I I I .

If heav'n had pleas'd to've giv'n me longer life
And able means, we had not parted thus.
These are the whole contents. And, good my Lord,
By that you love the dearest in this world,
As you wish christian peace to souls departed,
Stand these poor people's friend, and urge the King
To do me this last right.

Cap. By heav'n, I will ;
Or let me lose the fashion of a man !

Cath. I thank you, honest Lord. Remember me
In all humility unto his Highness ;
And tell him, his long trouble now is passing
Out of this world. Tell him, in death I blest him ;
For so I will—Mine eyes grow dim. Farewel,
My Lord——*Griffith*, farewel——Nay, *Patience*,
You must not leave me yet. I must to bed——
Call in more women—When I'm dead, good wench,
Let me be us'd with honour ; strew me over
With maiden flow'rs, that all the world may know
I was a chaste wife to my grave ; embalm me,
Then lay me forth. Although unqueen'd, yet like
A Queen, and daughter to a King, interr me.
I can no more—— [*Exeunt, leading Catharine.*]

A C T

ACT V. SCENE I.

*Before the Palace.**Enter Gardiner Bishop of Winchester, a Page with a torch before him, met by Sir Thomas Lovell.*

GARDINER.

IT's one o'clock, boy, is't not?*Boy.* It hath struck.*Gard.* These should be hours for necessities,
' Not for delights ; time, to repair our nature
With comforting repose, and not for us
To waste these times. Good hour of night, Sir
Thomas ?

Whither so late ?

Lov. Came you from the King, my Lord ?*Gard.* I did, Sir *Thomas*, and left him at *Primero*
With the Duke of *Suffolk*.*Lov.* I must to him too,
Before he go to bed. I'll take my leave.*Gard.* Not yet, Sir *Thomas Lovell* ; what's the
matter ?It seems you're in haste ; and if there be
No great offence belongs to't, give your friend
' Some touch of your late business. Affairs, that walk,
As they say, spirits do, at midnight, have
In them a wilder nature, than the business
That seeks dispatch by day.*Lov.* My Lord, I love you.¹ *Not for delights*] *Gardiner*
himself is not much delighted.
The delight at which he hints,
seems to be the King's diversion,
which keeps him in attendance.² *Some touch of your late busi-*
ness.] Some hint of the bu-
siness that keeps you awake so
late.

And durst commend a secret to your ear
Much weightier than this work. The Queen's in
labour,

They say, in great extremity ; 'tis fear'd,
She'll with the labour end.

Gard. The fruit she goes with
I pray for heartily, that it may find
Good time, and live ; but for the stock, Sir *Thomas*,
I wish it grubb'd up now.

Lov. Methinks, I could
Cry the Amen ; and yet my conscience says,
She's a good creature, and sweet lady, does
Deserve our better wishes.

Gard. But, Sir, Sir——
Hear me, Sir *Thomas*——You're a gentleman
Of mine own way ; I know you wise, religious ;
And, let me tell you, it will ne'er be well,
'Twill not, Sir *Thomas Lovell*, take't of me, *
'Till *Cranmer*, *Cromwell*, her two hands, and she,
Sleep in their graves.

Lov. Now, Sir, you speak of two
The most remark'd 'th' kingdom. As for *Cromwell*,
Beside that of the jewel-house, he's made master
O'th' Rolls, and the King's Secretary ; further,
+ Stands in the gap and trade for more preferments,
With which the time will load him. Th' Archbishop
Is the King's hand, and tongue ; and who dare speak
One syllable against him ?

Gard. Yes, Sir *Thomas*,
There are that dare ; and I myself have ventur'd
To speak my mind of him. Indeed, this day,
Sir, I may tell it you, I think, I have
Incens'd the Lords o'th' Council, that he is,

—³ mine own way.] Mine own should read TREAD, i. e. road
opinion in religion. WARBURTON.

+ Stands in the gap and TRADE Trade is the practised method,
for more preferments.] We the general course.

For so I know he is, they know he is,
 A most arch heretick, a pestilence
 That does infect the land; with which they mov'd,
 Have ' broken with the King; who hath so far
 Giv'n ear to our complaint, of his great Grace
 And princely care, foreseeing those fell mischiefs
 Our reasons laid before him; he hath commanded,
 To morrow-morning at the council-board
 He be convened. He's a rank weed, Sir *Thomas*,
 And we must root him out. From your affairs
 I hinder you too long: good night, Sir *Thomas*.

[*Exeunt Gardiner and Page.*]

Lov. Many good nights, my lord; I rest your ser-
 vant. [Exit *Lovell*.]

S C E N E · I I.

Changes to an Apartment in the Palace.

Enter King and Suffolk.

King. C H A R L E S, I will play no more to-
 night;

My mind's not on't, you are too hard for me.

Suf. Sir, I never did win of you before.

King. But little, *Charles*;

Nor shall not, when my fancy's on my play.

Re-enter Lovell.

Now, *Lovell*, from the Queen, what's the news?

Lov. I could not personally deliver to her
 What you commanded me, but by her woman
 I sent your message; who return'd her thanks
 In greatest humbleness, and begg'd your Highness
 Most heartily to pray for her.

— Broken with the king. } They have broken silence; told
 their minds to the King.

H h 4

King.

King. What say'st thou! ha!
 To pray for her! what, is she crying out?
Lov. So said her woman, and that her suff'rance
 made

Almost each pang a death.

King. Alas, good lady!

Suf. God safely quit her of her burden, and
 With gentle travel, to the gladding of
 Your Highness with an heir!

King. 'Tis midnight, *Charles*;
 Pr'ythee, to bed; and in thy pray'rs remember
 Th' estate of my poor Queen. Leave me alone;
 For I must think of that which company
 Would not be friendly to.

Suf. I wish your Highness
 A quiet night, and my good mistress will
 Remember in my prayers.

King. *Charles*, a good night. [Exit Suffolk.]

Enter Sir Anthony Denny.

Well, Sir, what follows?

Denny. Sir, I have brought my Lord the Arch-
 bishop,

As you commanded me.

King. Ha, *Canterbury*? —

Denny. Yea, my good Lord.

King. 'Tis true — Where is he, *Denny*?

Denny. He attends your Highness' pleasure.

King. Bring him to us. [Exit Denny.]

Lov. This is about that, which the Bishop spake;
 I am happily come hither. [Aside.]

Enter Cranmer and Denny.

King. Avoid the Gallery. [Lovell seemeth to stay.]

Ha! — I have said — be gone.

What! — [Exit Lovell and Denny.]

S C E N E

S C E N E III.

Cran. I am fearful. Wherefore frowns he thus ?
'Tis his aspect of terror. All's not well.

King. How now, my Lord ? you do desire to know,
Wherefore I sent for you.

Cran. [*kneeling.*] It is my duty
T'attend your Highness' pleasure.

King. Pray you, rise !
My good and gracious Lord of *Canterbury*.
Come, you and I must walk a turn together ;
I've news to tell you. Come, give me your hand.
Ah, my good Lord, I grieve at what I speak ;
And am right sorry to repeat what follows.
I have, and most unwillingly, of late
Heard many grievous, I do say, my Lord,
Grievous complaints of you ; which being consider'd,
Have mov'd us and our Council, that you shall
This morning come before us ; where I know,
You cannot with such freedom purge yourself,
But that, till further trial, in those charges
Which will require your answer, you must take
Your patience to you, and be well contented
To make your house our *Tower*.⁶ You a brother of us,
It fits we thus proceed ; or else no witness
Would come against you.

Cran. [*Kneeling.*] I humbly thank your Highness,
And am right glad to catch this good occasion
Most thoroughly to be winnow'd, where my chaff
And corn shall fly asunder ; for, I know,
There's none stands under more calumnious tongues
Than I myself, poor man.

King. Stand up, good *Canterbury* ;

⁶ — *You a brother of us.*] that the witnesses against you
You being one of the council, may not be deterr'd.
it is necessary to imprison you,

Thy truth and thy integrity is rooted
In us, thy friend. Give me thy hand, stand up;
Pr'ythee, let's walk. [*Cranmer rises.*] Now, by my
holy dame,

What manner of man are you? my Lord, I look'd,
You would have given me your petition, that
I should have ta'en some pains to bring together
Yourself and your accusers, and have heard you
Without indurance further.

Cran. Most dread Liege,

* The good I stand on is my truth and honesty :
If they shall fall, I with mine enemies
Will triumph o'er my person, which I weigh not,
Being of those virtues vacant. I fear nothing
Which can be said against me.

King. Know you not

How your state stands i'th' world, with the whole world?
Your foes are many, and not small; their practices
Must bear the same proportion; and not ever
The justice and the truth o'th' question carries
The due o'th' verdict with it. At what ease
Might corrupt minds procure knaves as corrupt
To swear against you? Such things have been done.
You're potently oppos'd; and with a malice
Of as great size. Ween you of better luck,
I mean, in perjur'd witness, than your master,
Whole minister you are, while here he liv'd
Upon this naughty earth? Go to, go to,
You take a precipice for no leap of danger,
And woo your own destruction.

Cran. God and your Majesty
Protect mine innocence, or I fall into
The trap is laid for me!

King. Be of good cheer;
They shall no more prevail, than we give way to.

* *The good I stand on.*] Though may help or support, yet it would,
good may be taken for advantage I think, be more natural to say,
or superiority, or any thing which The ground I stand on.

Keep

Keep comfort to you, and this morning see
 You do appear before them; if they chance,
 In charging you with matters, to commit you,
 The best persuasions to the contrary
 Fail not to use; and with what vehemency
 Th' occasion shall instruct you. If intreaties
 Will render you no remedy, this Ring
 Deliver them, and your appeal to us
 There make before them. Look, the good man
 weeps!

He's honest, on mine honour. God's blest mother!
 I swear, he is true-hearted; and a soul
 None better in my kingdom. Get you gone,
 And do as I have bid you. [*Exit Cranmer.*]
 H'as strangled all his language in his tears.

Enter an old Lady.

Gen. Within. Come back; what mean you?

Lady. I'll not come back, the tidings that I bring
 Will make my boldness manners. Now good angels
 Fly o'er thy royal head, and shade thy person
 Under their blessed wings!

King. Now, by thy looks
 I guess thy message. Is the Queen deliver'd?
 Say, ay; and of a boy.

Lady. Ay, ay, my Liege;
 And of a lovely boy; the god of heav'n
 Both now and ever⁷ blefs her!—'tis a girl,
 Promises boys hereafter. Sir, your Queen
 Desires your visitation; and to be
 Acquainted with this stranger; tis as like you,
 As cherry is to cherry.

King. Lovell,——

Lov. Sir.

King. Give her an hundred marks. I'll to the Queen.
 [*Exit King.*]

⁷ —blefs her!] It is doubtful whether *her* is referred to the Queen or the girl.

Lady.

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Lady. An hundred marks! by this light, I'll ha'
more.

An ordinary groom is for such payment.
I will have more, or scold it out of him,
Said I for this, the girl was like him? I'll
Have more, or else unsay't. Now, while 'tis hot,
I'll put it to the issue. [*Exit Lady.*]

S C E N E IV.

Before the Council - chamber.

Enter Cranmer

Cran. **I** Hope, I'm not too late; and yet the gentle-
man,
That was sent to me from the Council, pray'd me
To make great haste. All fast? what means this?—
ho! —
Who waits there? —

Enter Door - Keeper.

Sure, you know me?

D. Keep. Yes, my Lord;

But yet I cannot help you.

Cran. Why?

D. Keep. Your Grace must wait, 'till you be call'd for.

Enter Doctor Butts.

Cran. So. —

Butts. This is a piece of malice. I am glad,
I came this way so happily. The King
Shall understand it presently. [*Exit Butts.*]

Cran. [*Afide.*] 'Tis *Butts*,
The King's physician. As he past along,
How earnestly he cast his eyes upon me!
Pray heav'n, he found not my disgrace! For certain,
This

This is of purpose laid by some that hate me,
 God turn their hearts ! I never sought their malice,
 To quench mine honour ; they would shame to make me
 Wait else at door, a fellow-counsellor,
 Among boys and grooms and lackeys ! but their pleasures
 Must be fulfill'd, and I attend with patience.

Enter the King and Butts, at a window above.

Butts. I'll shew your Grace the strangest sight——

King. What's that, *Butts* ?

Butts. I think, your Highness saw this many a day.

King. Body o'me, where is it ?

Butts. There, my Lord ;

The high promotion of his Grace of *Canterbury*,
 Who holds his state at door 'mongst pursuivants,
 Pages, and foot-boys.

King. Ha ! 'tis he, indeed.

Is this the honour they do one another ?

'Tis well, there's one above 'em yet. I thought,

They'd parted so much Honesty among 'em,

At least, good manners, as not thus to suffer

A man of his place, and so near our favour,

To dance attendance on their Lordships' pleasures,

And at the door too, like a post with packets.

By holy *Mary*, *Butts*, there's knavery.

Let 'em alone, and draw the curtain close,

We shall hear more anon.——

S C E N E

S C E N E V.

The COUNCIL.

A council table brought in with chairs and stools, and placed under the state. Enter Lord Chancellor, places himself at the upper end of the table on the left hand; a seat being left void above him, as for the Arch-bishop of Canterbury. Duke of Suffolk, Duke of Norfolk, Surrey, Lord Chamberlain, and Gardiner, seat themselves in order on each side. Cromwell at the lower end, as Secretary.

* *Chan.* **S**PEAK to the business, Mr. Secretary.
Why are we met in Council?

Cromwell. Please your Honours,

The cause concerns his Grace of *Canterbury*.

Gard. Has he had knowledge of it?

Crom. Yes.

Nor. Who waits there?

D. Keep. Without, my noble Lords?

Gard. Yes.

D. Keep. My Lord Arch-bishop?

And has done half an hour, to know your pleasures.

Chan. Let him come in.

* *Chan. Speak to the Business.]*
This Lord Chancellor, tho' a Character, has hitherto had no place in the *Dramatis Personæ*. In the last Scene of the fourth Act, we heard, that Sir Thomas More was appointed Lord Chancellor: but it is not he whom the poet here introduces. *Wolsey*, by Command, deliver'd up the Seals on the 18th of November, 1529; on the 25th of the

same Month, they were deliver'd to Sir Thomas More, who surrender'd them on the 16th of May, 1532. Now the conclusion of this Scene taking Notice of Queen Elizabeth's Birth, (which brings it down to the Year 1534) Sir Thomas Audley must necessarily be our Poet's Chancellor; who succeeded Sir Thomas More, and held the Seals many years.

THEOBALD.

D. Keep.

D. Keep. Your Grace may enter now.

[*Cranmer approaches the council-table.*

Cban. My good Lord Arch-bishop, I'm very sorry
To sit here at this present, and behold
That chair stand empty ; but ' we are all men
In our owl natures frail, and capable
Of frailty, few are angels ; from which frailty
And want of wisdom, you, that best should teach us,
Have misdemean'd yourself, and not a little ;
Toward the King first, then his Laws, in filling
The whole realm, by your teaching and your chaplains,
(For so we are inform'd) with new opinions
Divers and dang'rous, which are heresies,
And, not reform'd, may prove pernicious.

Gard. Which reformation must be sudden too,
My noble Lords ; for those, that tame wild horses,
Pace 'em not in their hands to make 'em gentle,
But stop their mouths with stubborn bits, and spur 'em,
'Till they obey the manage. If we suffer,
Out of our easiness and childish pity
To one man's honour, this contagious sickness,
Farewel all physick ; and what follows then ?
Commotions, uproars, with a gen'ral taint
Of the whole state, as of late days our neighbours
The upper *Germany* can dearly witness,

' ———— *we are all men*

*In our own natures frail, and
capable*

Of frailty, ————] If all
men were actually frail, they
were more than capable of frail-
ty ; to understand this therefore,
as only find of the natural weak-
ness of humanity, it is absurdly
expressed ; but this was not our
author's sense : By, *in our own
natures frail*, he alludes to the
doctrine of original sin : So that
the sentiment is this, We are
sinners by imputation, and liable

to become actually so.

WARBURTON.

This sentence I think needed
no commentary. The meaning,
and the plain meaning, is, *we
are men frail by nature, and there-
fore liable to acts of frailty*, to
deviations from the right. I wish
every commentator, before he suf-
fers his confidence to kindle,
would repeat,

——— *We are all men*

*In our own natures frail, and
capable*

Of frailty ; few are angels.

Yet

Yet freshly pitied in our memories.

Cran. My good Lords, hitherto, in all the progress
Both of my life and office, I have labour'd,
And with no little study, that my teaching,
And the strong course of my Authority,
Might go one way, and safely; and the end
Was ever to do well: nor is there living
(I speak it with a single heart, my Lords)
A man that more detests, more stirs against,
Both in his private conscience and his place,
Defacers of the publick peace, than I do.
Pray heav'n, the King may never find a heart
With less allegiance in it! Men that make
Envy and crooked malice nourishment,
Dare bite the best. I do beseech your lordships,
That, in this case of justice, my accusers,
Be what they will, may stand forth face to face,
And freely urge against me.

Suf. Nay, my Lord,
That cannot be; you are a counsellor,
And by that virtue no man dare accuse you.

Gard. My Lord, because we've business of more
moment,
We will be short w'you. 'Tis his Highness' pleasure,
And our consent, for better trial of you,
From hence you be committed to the *Tower*;
Where, being but a private man again,
You shall know, many dare accuse you boldly,
More than, I fear, you are provided for.

Cran. Ay, my good Lord of *Winchester*, I thank
you,
You're always my good friend; if your will pass,
I shall both find your Lordship judge and juror,
You are so merciful. I see your end,
'Tis my undoing. Love and meekness, Lord,
Become a churchman better than ambition.
Win straying souls with modesty again,
Cast none away. That I shall clear myself,

Lay

Lay all the weight ye can upon my patience,
I make as little doubt, as you do conscience
In doing daily wrongs. I could say more,
But reverence to your Calling makes me modest.

Gard. My Lord, my Lord, you are a sectary,
That's the plain truth; ' your painted glos discovers,
To men that understand you, words and weakness.

Crom. My Lord of *Winchester*, you are a little,
By your good favour, too sharp; men so noble,
However faulty, yet should find respect
For what they have been; 'tis a cruelty
To load a falling man.

Gard. Good Mr. Secretary,
I cry your honour mercy; you may, worst
Of all this table, say so.

Crom. Why, my Lord?

Gard. Do not I know you for a favour
Of this new sect? Ye are not sound.

Crom. Not sound?

Gard. Not sound, I say.

Crom. 'Would you were half so honest!
Men's prayers then would seek you, not their fears.

Gard. I shall remember this bold language.

Crom. Do.

Remember your bold life too.

Cham. This is too much;
Forbear for shame, my Lords.

Gard. I've done.

Crom. And I

Cham. Then thus for you, my Lord. It stands
agreed,

I take it, by all voices, that forthwith
You be convey'd to th' *Tower* a prisoner;
There to remain, 'till the King's further pleasure

¹ — *Your painted glos, &c.*] outside, discover your empty talk
Those that understand you, under and your false reasoning.
der this *painted glos*, this fair

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Be known unto us. Are you all agreed, Lords?

All. We are.

Cran. Is there no other way of mercy,
But I must needs to th' *Tower*, my Lords?

Gard. What other
Would you expect? you're strangely troublesome.
—Let some o'th' Guard be ready there.

Enter the Guard.

Cran. For me?
Must I go like a traitor then?

Gard. Receive him,
And see him safe i'th' *Tower*.

Cran. Stay, good my Lords,
I have a little yet to say. Look there, Lords;
By virtue of that Ring, I take my cause
Out of the gripes of cruel men, and give it
To a most noble judge, the King my master.

Cham. This is the King's Ring.

Sur. 'Tis no counterfeit.

Suf. 'Tis his right Ring, by heav'n. I told ye all
When we first put this dang'rous stone a rolling,
'Twould fall upon ourselves.

Nor. D'you think, my Lords,
The King will suffer but the little finger
Of this man to be vex'd?

Cham. 'Tis now too certain.
How much more is his life in value with him?
'Would I were fairly out on't.

Crom. My mind gave me,
In seeking tales and informations
Against this man, whose honesty the devil
And his disciples only envy at.
Ye blew the fire that burns ye. Now have at ye.

S C E N E

K I N G H E N R Y V I I I. 483.

S C E N E VI.

Enter King, frowning on them; takes his seat.

Card. Dread Sov'reign, how much are we bound to heav'n

daily thanks, that gave us such a Prince,
 t only good and wise, but most religious;
 e, that in all obedience makes the Church
 e chief aim of his honour; and to strengthen
 at holy duty, out of dear respect,
 s royal self in judgment comes to hear
 e cause betwixt her and this great offender.

King. You're ever good at sudden commendations,
 hop of *Winchester*. But know, I come not,
 hear such flatt'ries now; and in my presence
 ey are too thin and base to hide offences.

me you cannot reach, you play the spaniel,
 d think with wagging of your tongue to win me.
 t whatsoe'er thou tak'st me for, I'm sure,
 ou hast a cruel nature, and a bloody.
 od man, sit down. Now let me see the proudest

[To Cranmer.

;, that dares most, but wag his finger at thee.

all that's holy, he had better starve,
 an but once think this place becomes thee not.

Sir. May't please your Grace——

King. No, Sir, it does not please me.

hought I had men of some understanding
 id wisdom of my Council; but I find none.

as it discretion, Lords, to let this man,
 his good man, few of you deserve that title,
 his honest man, wait like a lowly foot-boy
 : chamber-door, and one as great as you are?
 hy, what a shame was this? did my commission
 d ye so far forget yonrselves? I gave ye
 ow'r, as he was a counsellor to try him;

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Not as a groom. There's some of ye, I see,
More out of malice than integrity,
Would try him to the utmost, had ye means;
Which ye shall never have, while I do live.

Cbam. My most dread Sovereign, may it like your
Grace

To let my tongue excuse all. What was purpos'd
Concerning his imprisonment, was rather,
If there be faith in men, meant for his trial,
And fair purgation to the world, than malice;
I'm sure, in me.

King. Well, well, my Lords, respect him:
Take him, and use him well; he's worthy of it.
I will say thus much for him, if a Prince
May be beholden to a subject, I
Am, for his love and service so to him.
Make me no more ado, but all embrace.
Be friends for shame, my Lords.—My Lord of *Can-*
terbury,

I have a suit which you must not deny me,
There is a fair young maid, that yet wants baptism;
You must be godfather, and answer for her.

Cran. The greatest monarch now alive may glory
In such an honour; how may I deserve it,
That am a poor and humble subject to you?

King. Come, come, my Lord, ' you'd spare your
spoons. You shall have
Two noble partners with you; the old Dutches
Of *Norfolk*, and the old lady Marquess *Dorset*.
—Once more, my Lord of *Winchester*, I charge you,
Embrace and love this man.

Gard. With a true heart
And brother's love I do it.

Cran. And let heaven
Witness, how dear I hold this confirmation.

[*Embracing.*

² —you'd spare your spoons.] passage in the next scene, that
It appears by this and another the gossips gave spoons.

K I N G H E N R Y V I I I. 485

King. Good man, those joyful tears shew thy true heart :

The common voice, I see is verif'd
Of thee, which says thus: *Do my Lord of Canterbury*
But one frowd turn, and he's your friend for ever.
Come, Lords, we trifle time away : I long
To have this young one made a christian.
As I have made ye one, Lords, one remain ;
So I grow stronger, you more honour gain. [*Exeunt.*]

S C E N E V I I.

The Palace-Yard.

Noise and tumult within : Enter Porter and his man.

Port. **Y**OU'll leave your noise anon, ye rascals ; do
you take the Court for ³ *Paris-Garden* ? ye
rude slaves, leave your gaping.

Within. Good Mr. Porter, I belong to th' larder.

Port. Belong to the gallows and be hanged, ye
rogue. Is this a place to roar in ?—Fetch me a dozen
crab tree staves, and strong ones ; ⁴ these are but
switches to 'em. I'll scratch your heads ; you must
be seeing christnings ? do you look for ale and cakes
here, you rude rascals ?

Man. Pray, Sir, be patient ; 'tis as much impossible,
Unless we swept them from the door with cannons,
To scatter 'em, as 'tis to make 'em sleep

On *May-day* morning ; which will never be.

We may as well push against *Paul's* as stir 'em.

Port. How got they in, and be hanged ?

Man. Alas, I know not ; how gets the tide in ?

As much as one sound cudgel of four foot,

³ *Paris Garden*] The Bear- i. e. *have at you*, as we now say.
garden of that time. He says this as he turns upon the

⁴ *These are but switches to 'em.*] mob. WARBURTON.

To what, or whom ? we should The present pointing seems to
point it thus, be right.

These are but switches.—To 'em.

You see the poor remainder, could distribute,
I made no spare, Sir.

Port. You did nothing, Sir.

Man. I am not *Sampson*, nor ' Sir *Guy*, nor *Colebrand*, to mow 'em down before me; but if I spar'd any that had a head to hit, either young or old, he or she, cuckold or cuckold-maker, let me never hope to see a chine again; and that I would not for a cow, God save her.

Within. Do you hear, Mr. *Porter*?

Port. I shall be with you presently, good Mr. *Puppy*.
—Keep the door close, sirrah.

Man. What would you have me do?

Port. What should you do, but knock 'em down by the dozens? Is this ' *Morefields* to muster in? or have we some strange *Indian* with the great tool come to Court, the women so besiege us? Bless me! what a fry of fornication is at the door? on my christian conscience, this one christning will beget a thousand; here will be father, god father, and all together.

Man. The spoons will be the bigger, Sir, There is a fellow somewhat near the door, he * should be a brasier by his face; for, o' my conscience, twenty of the dog-days now reign in's nose; all that stand about him are under the line, they need no other penance; that fire-drake did I hit three times on the head, and three times was his nose discharged against me; he stands there like a mortar-piece to blow us up. There was a haberdasher's wife of small wit near him, that rattled upon me 'till her pink'd porringer fell off her head, for kindling such a combustion in the state.

* *Sir Guy, nor Colebrand.*]
Of *Guy* of *Warwick* every one has heard. *Colebrand* was the Danish giant whom *Guy* subdued at *Wincester*. Their combat is very elaborately, described by *Draco* in his *Polyolbion*.

* *Morefields to muster in?*]

The trainbands of the city were exercised in *Morefields*.

* *he should be a brasier by his face.*] A *brasier* signifies a man that manufactures brass, and a mass of metal occasionally heated to convey warmth. Both these senses are here understood.

KING HENRY VIII. 487

I mist the * meteor once, and hit that woman, who cry'd out, Clubs! when I might see from far some forty truncheoneers draw to her succour; which were ⁷ the hope of the strand, where she was quarter'd. They fell on; I made good my place; at length they came to th' broomstaff with me, I defy'd 'em still; when suddenly a file of boys behind 'em deliver'd such a shower of pebbles, loose shot, that I was fain to draw mine honour in, and let 'em win the Work; the devil was amongst 'em, I think, surely.

Port. These are the youths that thunder at a play-house, and fight for bitten apples; that no audience but ⁸ the Tribulation of *Tower-Hill*, or the limbs of *Limehouse*, their dear brothers, are able to endure. I have some of 'em in *Limbo Patrum*, and there they are like to dance these three days; besides the † running banquet of two beadles, that is to come.

Enter Lord Chamberlain.

Cham. Mercy o' me! what a multitude are here? They grow still too; from all parts they are coming, As if we kept a fair. Where are these porters; These lazy knaves?—Ye've made a fine hand, fellows. There's a trim rabble let in; are all these, Your faithful friends o'th' suburbs? We shall have Great store of room, no doubt left for the ladies, When they pass back from th' christning?

Port. Please your honour,
We are but men; and what so many may do,
Not being torn in pieces, we have done.
An army cannot rule 'em.

Cham. As I live,
If the King blame me for't, I'll lay ye all

* *the meteor*] The fire-drake, the brasier.

⁷ *the hope of the strand.*] *Hammer* reads, the forlorn hope.

⁸ *the Tribulation of Tower-Hill, or the limbs of Limehouse.*]

I suspect the *Tribulation* to have been a puritanical meeting house. *The limbs of Limehouse* I do not understand.

† *running banquet of two beadles,*] A publick whipping.

By th' heels, and suddenly ; and on your heads
Clap round fines for neglect. Y'are lazy knaves ;
And ' here ye lie baiting of bumbards, when
Ye should do service. Hark, the trumpets sound ;
Th'are come already from the christning.

Go break among the press, and find a way out
To let the troop pass fairly ; or I'll find
A *Marshalsea*, shall hold you play these two months.

Port. Make way for the Princess.

Man. You great fellow, stand close up, or I'll make
your head ake.

Port. You i'th' camblet, get up o' th' rail ; I'll pick
you o'er the pales else. [*Exeunt.*

S C E N E V I I I.

Changes to the Palace.

Enter Trumpets sounding ; then two Aldermen, Lord Mayor, Garter, Cranmer, Duke of Norfolk with his Marshal's staff, Duke of Suffolk, two Noblemen bearing great standing bows for the christning gifts ; then four Noblemen bearing a canopy, under which the Dutchess of Norfolk, god-mother, bearing the child richly habited in a mantle, &c. Train borne by a lady : then follows the Marchioness of Dorset, the other god-mother, and ladies. The troop pass once about the stage, and Garter speaks.

Gart. Heav'n, from thy endless goodness send long
life,

And ever happy, to the high and mighty
Princess of England, fair Elizabeth !

⁹ — here ye lie baiting of bumbards ; to bait bumbards is to supple, to lie as the spigot.

Fleurish.

Flourish. Enter King and Guard.

Cran. [Kneeling.] And to your royal Grace, and the good Queen,
My noble partners and myself thus pray;
All comfort, joy, in this most gracious lady,
That heav'n e'er laid up to make parents happy,
May hourly fall upon ye!

King. Thank you, good Lord Arch-bishop:
What is her name?

Cran. Elizabeth.

King. Stand up, Lord. [*The King kisses the child.*]
With this kiss take my blessing. God protect thee,
Into whose hand I give thy life.

Cran. Amen.

King. My noble gossips, ye have been too prodigal;
I thank you heartily; so shall this lady,
When she has so much *English*.

Cran. Let me speak, Sir;
For Heav'n now bids me, and the words I utter,
Let none think flattery, for they'll find 'em truth.
This royal infant, heav'n still move about her!
Though in her cradle, yet now promises
Upon this land a thousand thousand blessings,
Which time shall bring to ripeness. She shall be;
(But few or none living can behold that goodness)
A pattern to all Princes living with her,
And all that shall succeed. *Sheba* was never
More covetous of wisdom and fair virtue,
Than this blest soul should be. All Princely graces,
That mould up such a mighty piece as this,
With all the virtues that attend the good,
Shall still be doubled on her. Truth shall nurse her:
Holy and heav'nly thoughts still counsel her:
She shall be lov'd and fear'd. Her own shall bless
her;

Her foes shake, like a field of beaten corn,

And

And hang their heads with sorrow. Good grows with
her,

In her days, ev'ry man shall eat in safety,

Under his own vine, what he plants; and sing

The merry songs of peace to all his neighbours.

God shall be truly known, and those about her

From her shall read the perfect ways of honour,

And claim by those their greatness, not by blood.

[Nor shall this peace sleep with her; but as when

The bird of wonder dies, the maiden Phoenix,

Her ashes new-create another heir,

As great in admiration as herself;

So shall she leave her blessedness to one,

When heav'n shall call her from this cloud of darkness,

Who from the sacred ashes of her honour

Shall star-like rise, as great in fame as she was,

And so stand fix'd. Peace, Plenty, Love, Truth,

Terror,

That were the servants to this chosen infant,

Shall then be his, and like a vine grow to him:

Where-ever the bright sun of heav'n shall shine,

His honour and the greatness of his name

Shall be, and make new nations. He shall flourish,

And, like a mountain cedar, reach his branches

To all the plains about him: childrens' children

Shall see this, and bless heav'n.

¹ *Nor shall this peace sleep with
her.*] These lines, to the
interruption by the King, seem
to have been inserted at some
revival of the play, after the ac-
cession of King *James*. If the
passage, included in crotchets,
be left out, the speech of *Cran-
mer* proceeds in a regular tenour
of prediction and continuity of
sentiments; but by the interpo-
sition of the new lines, he first ce-
lebrates *Elizabeth's* successor, and
then wishes he did not know

that she was to die; first rejoices
at the consequence, and then la-
ments the cause. Our author
was at once politick and idle;
he resolved to flatter *James*, but
neglected to reduce the whole
speech to propriety, or perhaps
intended that the line inserted
should be spoken in the action,
and omitted in the publication,
if any publication ever was in his
thoughts. *Mr. Theobald* has made
the same observation.

King. Thou speakest wonders.]

Cran. She shall be, to the happiness of *England*,
An aged Princess ; many days shall see her,
And yet no day without a deed to crown it.
‘Would, I had known no more ! but she must die,
She must, the Saints must have her ; yet a Virgin,
A most unspotted lily she shall pass
To th’ ground, and all the world shall mourn her.

King. O Lord Arch-bishop,
Thou’st made me now a man ; never, before
This happy child, did I get any thing.
This oracle of comfort has so pleas’d me,
That when I am in heav’n, I shall desire
To see what this child does, and praise my Maker.
I thank ye all.—To you, my good Lord Mayor,
‘ And your good brethren, I am much beholden :
I have receiv’d much honour by your presence,
And ye shall find me thankful. Lead the way, Lords ;
Ye must all see the Queen, and she must thank ye,
She will be sick else. This day no man think,
H’as business at his house, for all shall stay ;
This little one shall make it holy day. [Exeunt.

² *And you good Brethren,*] But
the *Aldermen* never were called
Brethren to the King. The
top of the nobility are but Cou-
sins and Counsellors. Dr. *Thirl-*
by, therefore, rightly advised ;

And your good Brethren——
i. e. the Lord Mayor’s Brethren ;
which is properly their Style.

THEOBALD.

The play of *Henry* the eighth
is one of those which still keeps
possession of the stage, by the
splendour of its pageantry. The

coronation about forty years ago
drew the people together in mul-
titudes for a great part of the
winter. Yet pomp is not the
only merit of this play. The
meek sorrows and virtuous dis-
tress of *Catherine* have furnished
some scenes which may be justly
numbered among the greatest
efforts of tragedy. But the ge-
nius of *Shakespeare* comes in and
goes out with *Catherine*. Every
other part may be easily con-
ceived, and easily written.

E P I L O G U E.

TIS ten to one, this Play can never please
 All that are here. Some come to take their ease,
 And sleep an Ail or two; but those, we fear,
 We've frighted with our trumpets: so 'tis clear,
 They'll say, it's naught: Others, to hear the city
 Abus'd extremely, and to cry, That's witty!
 Which we have not done neither; that, I fear,
 All the expected Good we're like to bear
 For this Play at this time, is only in
 The merciful construction of good women;
 For such a one we shew'd 'em. If they smile,
 And say 'twill do; I know within a while
 All the best men are ours; for 'tis ill hap,
 If they hold, when their ladies bid 'em clap.

* In the character of Catharine.

Though it is very difficult to decide whether short pieces be genuine or spurious, yet I cannot restrain myself from expressing my suspicion that neither the prologue nor epilogue to this play is the work of *Shakespeare*; *non vultus, non color*. It appears to me very likely that they were supplied by the friendship or officiousness of *Johnsen*, whose manner they will be perhaps found exactly to resemble. There is yet another

supposition possible: the prologue and epilogue may have been written after *Shakespeare's* departure from the stage, upon some accidental revival of the play, and there will then be reason for imagining that the writer, whoever he was, intended no great kindness to him, this play being recommended by a subtle and covert censure of his other works. There is in

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in *Shakespeare* so much of *fool*
and *fight*,

—————*the fellow*

In a long motley coat, guarded
with yellow,

appears so often in his drama,
that I think it not very likely

that he would have animadverted so severely on himself. All this, however, must be received as very dubious, since we know not the exact date of this or the other plays, and cannot tell how our authour might have changed his practice or opinions.

THE historical Dramas are now concluded, of which the two parts of *Henry the Fourth*, and *Henry the Fifth*, are among the happiest of our authour's compositions; and *King John*, *Richard the Third*, and *Henry the Eighth*, deservedly stand in the second class. Those whose curiosity would refer the historical scenes to their original, may consult *Hollingshead*, and sometimes *Hall*: from *Hollingshead Shakespeare* has often inserted whole speeches with no more alteration than was necessary to the num-

bers of his verse. To transcribe them into the margin was unnecessary, because the original is easily examined, and they are seldom less perspicuous in the poet than in the historian.

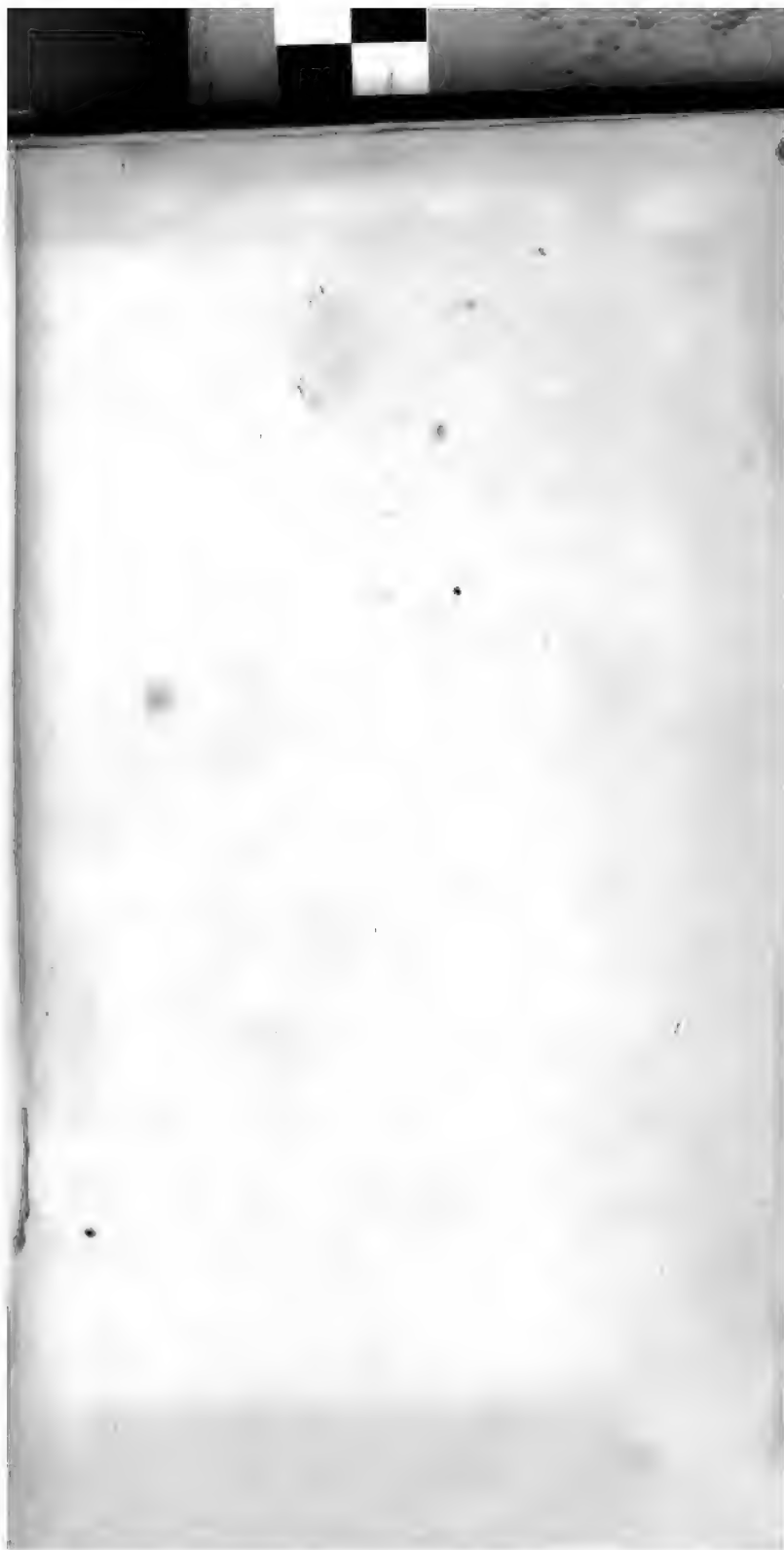
To play histories, or to exhibit a succession of events by action and dialogue, was a common entertainment among our rude ancestors upon great festivities. The parish clerks once performed at *Clerkenwell* a play which lasted three days, containing, *The History of the World*.

THE END of the FIFTH VOLUME;





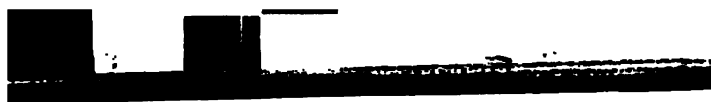














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